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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

JANUARY 2001

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## Some Things Never Change

**T**he year 2000 is now history and the second year of the new century is underway. We have moved beyond the Y2K scare of a year ago and other problems and situations with which we were confronted. We have now turned our focus on this new year, along with the resolutions that we have determined to carry out, whatever they may be. Each of us will determine what kind of year this will be, just as with years past.

The past year brought many advancements in technology as evidenced in our hi-tech terminology: e-mail, on-line, e-commerce, disk, Icon, glitch, hard drive, byte, etc. Each passing year also brings advances in the treatment of illnesses and diseases, with modern technology playing its part. The modernization of medical facilities now provides for the treatment of practically all of our ailments.

Hi-tech advances effect almost every facet of our society. Offices, schools, industries, and many homes are now "computerized." Our children are now introduced to them at a very early age. Many of us who said we would not get involved with computer technology have done so. With the click of the mouse we can e-mail our friends.

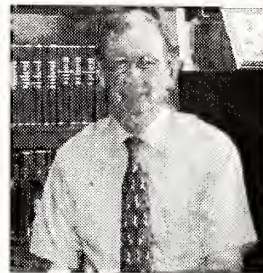
Churches have turned to more modern and updated methods of fulfilling their ministry, including the utilizing of computers. Many of our own ministers can now be contacted by e-mail. Some of our ministries now have their own web page. In some denominations there are churches that have hi-tech worship services. Hymnbooks are no longer the "in thing"; instead, words are projected on a screen. Quality sound systems and lighting systems flood the sanctuaries with high-fidelity sound and colorful lighting.

### Changes, Changes, Changes

Changes are a part of our everyday lives. Some are beneficial to the betterment of all; some are not. Some changes occur gradually due to the progression of ideas and the evolvement of things we utilize; such as, the automobile, household appliances, etc. Most of us desire to modernize, to be a part of our changing society. But occasionally we meet or hear of that person who

## EDITOR'S thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



has chosen to live the simple life with no desire to actively be a part of our ever-changing society. We respect them for their determination to remain the same, and their true happiness and contentment may be deeper and more meaningful than the race toward modernization.

### Why Change?

Changes are not always necessary or better. Sometimes they are necessitated because of the changing times and not so much because people change. Demographics, work schedules, and many other factors necessitate change; however, if a practice, custom, or tradition is working, why change just for the sake of change? As has been said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The truth is that some things never change, nor should they. Christian principles, values, and virtues remain constant although we seek to alter them in our own minds. Good is good. Truth is truth. Righteousness is still righteousness because God is God and He does not change under any circumstance, regardless of mankind's whims and complaints. Hebrews 13:8 declares; "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Thus, we can totally depend on this changeless One.

Our denomination will be considering changes during this year, and surely in the years to follow. Let us weigh them carefully. We must not be compelled to change just for the sake of change. Any drastic change must first answer the question, "Is it beneficial for the good of our denomination and churches and will it build and strengthen the Kingdom?" We can utilize the technology that is available to us without sacrificing our doctrines and beliefs. Traditions and customs have their values as long as they strengthen His work. Meanwhile, "...let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9). ♦



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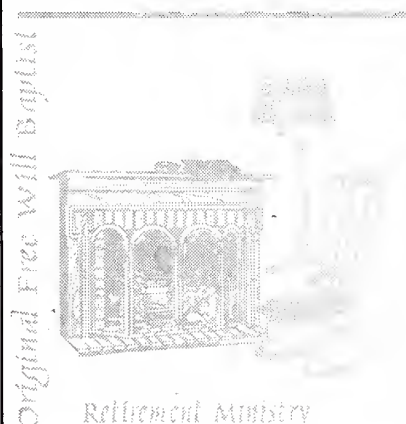
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## NEXT MONTH

February is  
Sunday School  
Month



January is  
Retirement Homes  
Month

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tional name less than two decades earlier and (2) because several key ministers and laymen had become early converts to this new movement and had used their influence to convert others. The end result was that disruption and division occurred within several churches, with a Free Will Baptist faction and a Disciples faction meeting in the same church building at different times and belonging to different conferences. In addition, several ministers became a part of a new denomination that today is known as the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ. The impact of the Disciples movement made it necessary for Free Will Baptists to regroup their churches into one conference in 1842 which was designated as the Original Free Will Baptist Conference.

At the turn of the twentieth century, the Holiness movement began to affect several of our churches. Its impact was strongest in the Cape Fear Conference which was organized in 1855. As early as the 1870s this conference adopted the articles of faith of the Northern Free Will Baptists. Then in 1899 in some mysterious way the article on Sanctification was radically changed so as to reflect a Holiness interpretation. Instead of seeing sanctification as a progressive work in the life of a believer, it was interpreted as being a second definite work of grace that was instantaneous. Not everyone in the conference embraced this new form of doctrine as the years passed, so it became a test of faith in 1911 when delegates and ministers of the conference held their annual meeting. Those who did not subscribe to this new interpretation of sanctification were not seated at the conference. The situation was further complicated by the fact that several ministers and laypersons had embraced



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Finally, we come to the most recent and most dramatic disruption leading to division that we have experienced in the twentieth century. Our convention was organized in 1913 in order to bring together the various conferences and associations of our state. An earlier attempt to unite Free Will Baptists in the southeastern United States as early as 1898 had faltered after 1910, but a fresh start was made in 1921 to organize a regional body that was called the General



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What was at the root of the dissension that led to this separation from the National Association? My opinion is that there was an influential group in the National Association that committed to a militant, hard-line fundamentalism, and that they displayed a mentality of intolerance toward anyone who did not agree with their position. The issues with the Free Will Baptist Press, with Mount Olive College, and with the Western Conference provided an occasion for them to push their agenda of gaining complete control of the denomination. Even before the leadership of our convention had considered withdrawing from the national body, there were those in the national body who seemed to welcome the prospect of such a withdrawal.

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# The Look Homeward Emmaus Day Homecoming Celebration

by Pepper Worthington,  
Member, Free Union  
Free Will Baptist Church



Above: Rev. Warning leads the congregation to sing, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder," with his guitar.



Above: Rev. C. H. Overman delivered the Emmaus Day Homecoming message at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Sea Level, NC.

**A**t the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church on November 5, 2000 a celebration was held. "We welcome everyone here this Emmaus Day—we celebrate Homecoming together. May the presence of God be in our fellowship," began the Rev. Michael G. Warning, pastor of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Sea Level.

## Community Worship Together

On November 5, more than a hundred people gathered from the Down East community of Carteret County to celebrate coming together to worship and break bread, Jesus in the midst. Pastor Warning recognized the wide gathering of Down East churches: Cedar Island Free Will Baptist, Davis Free Will Baptist, Missionary Baptist in Atlantic, Methodist Church in Atlantic, Missionary Baptist in Davis, Neuse River Baptist in New Bern, Roanoke Baptist from Roanoke Island, Methodist Church in Sea Level, Methodist Church in Beaufort, St. Paul's Episcopal in Beaufort.

## Emmaus Day Fellowship

"Let me explain the Emmaus Day story from the Bible," continued Rev. Warning. "After our Lord was crucified, the people began to talk about the events that led up to the Crucifixion, the stories about the Resurrection, the account of appearances. Two disciples were walking on the road to Emmaus and they were talking about these events. A stranger joined them and asked questions about Jesus. "Who was He? Have you seen Him?" The disciples talked with the stranger, answering his questions. When they came to an inn, the disciples invited the stranger to come in and have a meal. In the breaking of bread together, the disciples recognized the presence of the Lord. And so you see," concluded Rev. Warning, "we come together today as the disciples did on the road to Emmaus. We remember our Lord, His story, and we recognize His





*Left: Congregation at Emnuas Day. Center: Left to right, Mary Willis and Lisa Fulcher provided the special music at the Sea Level Homecoming. Bottom: Left to right Lorraine Wade and her daughter Christi worked hard to make the meal in the Fellowship Hall a treat for everyone.*

presence in our presence, in our heart and life."

### Special Music

Mary Willis and Lisa Fulcher from Davis Free Will Baptist Church provided the special music at the Sea Level gathering. They sang of the Lord's power in putting together the damaged pieces of a person's life. By putting the broken vessel back together, the Lord once again shows the world how Jesus brings us from where we are to where we may be. Mary Willis and Lisa Fulcher also sang "Another Valley Left Behind," reminding all of Jesus as the necessary key to pull us out of the valley.

Rev. Warning pulled out his guitar and invited the congregation to sing with him, "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder." Voices joined together to celebrate being there when the roll is called up yonder in our eternal home.

### The Look Homeward

The Rev. C.H. Overman invited the congregation to turn to Luke 15: 17-19. He spoke of the prodigal son as the son who departed with his inheritance, as the one who wasted all he had in riotous living, as the one who came to himself and began to look homeward. Rev. Overman spoke of the prodigal son as the one who began to remember the love and care of his father. "The pivotal moment for the prodigal son began here, and every step that led him back home to complete his restoration with his father was ordained of God," Rev. Overman began. In developing the theme of looking homeward, Rev. Overman



stressed three homes: our *birth* home, our *spiritual* home, and our *eternal* home.

### Birth Home

What is the importance of our birth home? Rev. Overman explained, "Ev-

eryone longs for his or her birth home, the place, the house, the street, or the location where he or she was born and grew up. The house may be gone, but the place may still be there, the hills or the road. Home means something. Songs, poems, and books are written about birth homes," he said. Rev. Overman then told several stories about his own childhood home. There were four children in his home and his brother played the mandolin, then the guitar. Rev. Overman remembered his brother playing the guitar. He remembered funny stories of his own childhood. "There is no substitute for family," declared Rev. Overman. "To look homeward, we must look back to our birth home."

### Spiritual Home

To look homeward we must also look back to our *spiritual* home or our childhood church. Your church is a home, a place where people who loved you shaped your life as a Christian. My church home is Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Wayne County. I remember my teachers there. I remember the Union Grove Youth Auxiliary. I remember our youth rallies. I remember friends. I remember how my home church nurtured me and encouraged me. I was baptized at the age of fourteen but my commitment to Christian service came at age nineteen. I never thought the Lord would lead me into the ministry. My church was instrumental in that. My church at Union Grove is my spiritual home," he stressed.

*cont....*

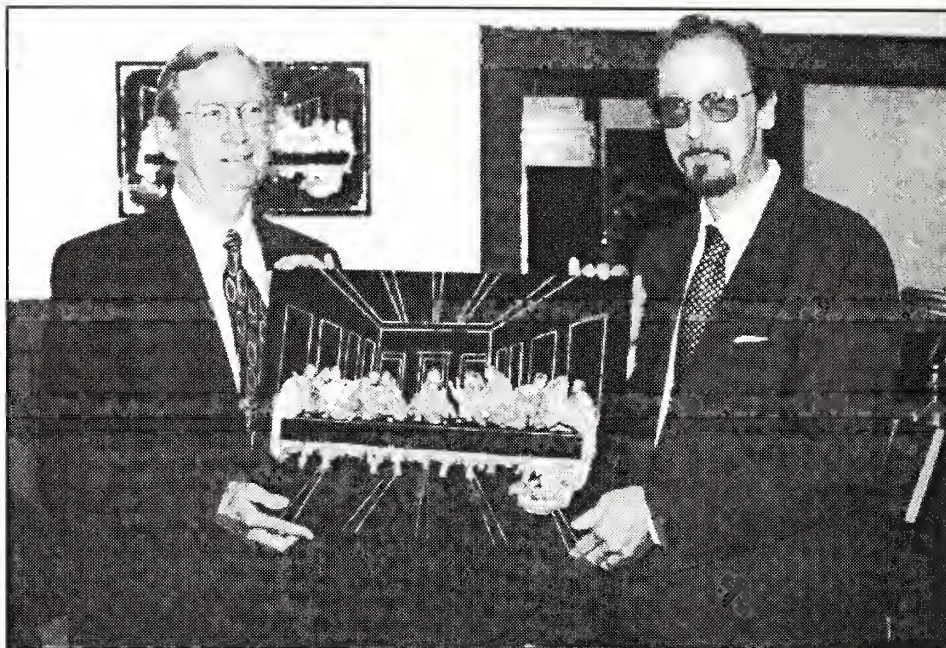


## Eternal Home

"But we have a third home, our eternal home," Rev. Overman continued. "We've not seen this home, but we believe there is a place and we call it Heaven," he said. "Regardless of how good life is, we know there is a better place. We don't know what will happen to us from one moment to the next. We don't know when our time will be to go to our eternal home," he emphasized. He told the story of his older sister and her husband George, their happy 50th Wedding Anniversary party. Soon after George was killed in an automobile accident—dead, gone to his eternal home. What is this eternal home?

"Jesus told us that he prepares a place for us. The wonderful aspect of this place is called Heaven. We sing about this eternal home. We preach about Heaven. We believe Heaven is the place where God is, where our Saviour is, where our loved ones await us, where one day we will have a great Homecoming in our eternal home. There, all questions, all doubts, and all uncertainties will have an answer. There we will join together in this greatest Homecoming imaginable," Rev. Overman declared.

"It is good to have reunions. It is good to remember. As we take the look home-



Above: The Rev. Michael Warning (right) presents a mother-of-pearl art work of the Lord's Last Supper to Rev. C. H. Overman for the Free Will Baptist Press office in Ayden, NC.

ward, we think of our birth home, our spiritual home, and our eternal home. As my wife Ruby and I head back toward Ayden, this church at Sea Level will be a place where we have been nurtured. We will cherish Free Union Free Will Baptist Church even more. How thankful we are for our homes," concluded Rev. Overman.

## Fellowship Hall

The Emmaus Day Homecoming Cel-

ebration continued as Rev. Clifton Styron blessed the food and fellowship. The congregation went into the Fellowship Hall to break bread together and enjoy fresh barbecue, hot hush puppies, and gifts from around the world. Prizes awaited everyone.

In the midst of the fellowship was Jesus—through kind eyes, warm smiles, gentle touches, light laughter, and inner joy. People were at home together. ❖

## Layman's League

### State Layman's League Board and Officers

Floyd Newsome	(2001)	Western	Board Pastoral Advisor
Robert Ramsey	(2001)	Eastern	..... The Rev. Mike Scott
Stanley Jenkins	(2001)	Eastern	President ..... Elmer Harrell
Herman Tyson	(2001)	Eastern	Vice President ..... Russell Tyson
Elmer Harrell	(2002)	Central	Secretary ..... Harold Humbles
Earl Strickland	(2002)	Central	Treasurer ..... Robert Tripp
Paul Beaman	(2002)	Central	Promotional ..... Randy Beaman
Frank Parsons	(2002)	Cape Fear	..... Harold Humbles
Webster Williams	(2003)	Central	Member at Large ..... John Newton
Dan Vernelson	(2003)	Eastern	
Randy Tyson	(2003)	Central	
Earl Shackelford	(2003)	Central	

❖

# January is Retirement Homes Month and An Opportunity for Growth...

Original Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Ministry is a *People to People* ministry. It has always existed primarily to serve people in the name of our Lord. We are very pleased that our program has expanded to the place where we were serving seven clients at the end of the year. Moreover, we are very happy to announce that we have added four additional persons to our care list.

Kaye Jones  
4031-B North Lee Street  
Ayden, NC 28513

Margaret Brown  
Bldg. A-211  
742 West Garner Road  
Garner, NC 27529

The Rev. Earl Minchew  
1703 Peachtree Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530

The Rev. and Mrs. John Owens  
3788 Tower Hill Road  
Kinston, NC 28501

The Rev. Robert Sellers  
907 Stake Road  
Whiteville, NC 28463

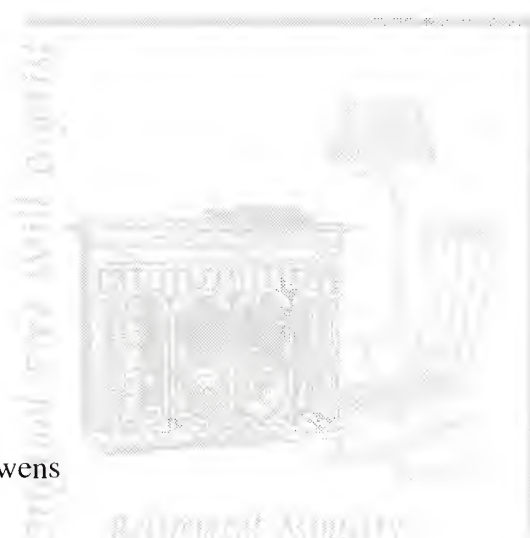
Hulon Whitehead  
621 Madison Avenue  
Kinston, NC 28501

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Campbell  
4915 Mount Olive Highway  
Newton Grove, NC 28366

Dr. and Mrs. Cedric D. Pierce  
1281 Rouse Road  
Greenville, NC 27858

These are the persons that your gifts help. These and others who need, are the reason for the existence of Original Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Ministry,

**To help these and perhaps others send your contributions to:**  
**Original Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes**  
**P.O. Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513**





# A Cragmont Christmas

**T**hursday November 30, 2000, seventy-two people boarded buses with pickups scattered across eastern North Carolina and headed for Cragmont. They came from as far east as Belhaven and Bettie, North Carolina, to as far west as Selma and Wilson, North Carolina. The purpose of the trip was to attend "A Cragmont Christmas," a tour sponsored by Cragmont Assembly, Inc. and hosted by John and Arlinda Williams. The concept can be traced to the Fall Limited trips which were first designed by the Rev. Bruce Dudley during the middle 1980s.

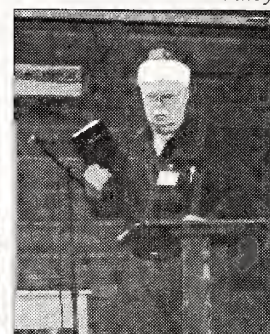
Upon arrival at Cragmont, the group settled into their rooms followed by a banquet style meal of roast pork, potatoes, coleslaw, and dessert. After the meal, entertainment, which could have been called the Cragmont Comedy Hour, was provided by several talented Free Will Baptist ministers.

Friday morning the seventy-two tourists plundered around the stores of Black Mountain. Lunch was prepared by the good people of the Red Rocker Inn, famous for its "boarding house lunch." It consisted of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits, cole slaw, cream style corn, and cobbler topped with ice-cream, all served up family style. It was the kind of meal that could take one back to those childhood days where lunch was not lunch, but dinner. From the Red Rocker it was off to the Farmers Market and the Asheville Mall. Friday evening was very special as the Convention Quartet, in concert, rendered gospel and Christmas music. A fire burned in the fireplace and glowing candles providing soft light as they sang.

Saturday following breakfast, the group struck out for Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, for lunch at the Oldies Showcase Café and were once again entertained. Tracy Trent who was once with the



*Below: Bruce Dudley*



*Above: Convention Quartet.*

*Right: Mary Dudley. Below: David C. Hansley*



Blackwood Quartet sang oldies of the 50s and early 60s. Saturday afternoon found this group at the Southern Nights Theatre enjoying the one-man Christmas show of James Rogers. Mr. Rogers has the ability to interact with the audience in such a way as to have you crying one moment and laughing so hard you cry the next. After the show we headed for our Cragmont home.

Sunday following breakfast, the group remained in the dining hall for a devotion by John Williams. A worship service had been planned; however, a light dusting snow made everyone anxious to return home as soon as possible. The snow put a nice touch on the end of a wonderful "Cragmont Christmas."

A special thanks goes to the following who helped make this weekend very special. Bryant and Karen Hines, Craig Simmons, Buddy and Pam Sasser, Everette Harper, Bruce and Mary Dudley, David Hansley, Keith Cayton, and Bennie Everington. ♦







*A Cragmont Christmas*

## 2001 Conference Schedule

### **Morning Star**

*April 20-22, 2001*

Teresa Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530  
252-524-4677

### **Minister's Conference**

*May 20-23, 2001*

Jessie Fulcher  
7541 Newton Grove Hwy.  
Dunn, NC 28334  
910-567-6419

### **June Woman's Auxiliary Conference**

*June 4-9, 2001*

Teresa Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530  
252-524-4677

### **Cragmont Youth Conference**

*June 11-16, 2001*

Bryant Hines  
PO Box 266  
Cove City, NC 28523  
252-633-2683

### **Christian Cadet Conference**

*June 18-23, 2001*

Gary Bailey  
112 Crosswinds Drive  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
919-735-3916

### **Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)**

*June 25-30, 2001*

Janie Sowers  
PO Box 824  
Middlesex, NC 27557  
252-235-2408

### **Youth Frontier Conference (AFC)**

*July 2-7, 2001*

Frankie Baggett  
5403 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Ayden, NC 28513  
252-746-7850

### **General Youth II Conference**

*July 9-14, 2001*

Chris Singleton  
PO Box 162  
Beulaville, NC 28518  
910-298-3520

### **General Youth I Conference**

*July 16-21, 2001*

Bryant Hines  
PO Box 266  
Cove City, NC 28523  
252-633-2683

### **Young People's Bible Conference**

*July 23-28, 2001*

James Gurganus  
1317 Nine Foot Road  
Newport, NC 28570  
252-223-5251

### **August Woman's Auxiliary Conference**

*July 30-August 4, 2001*

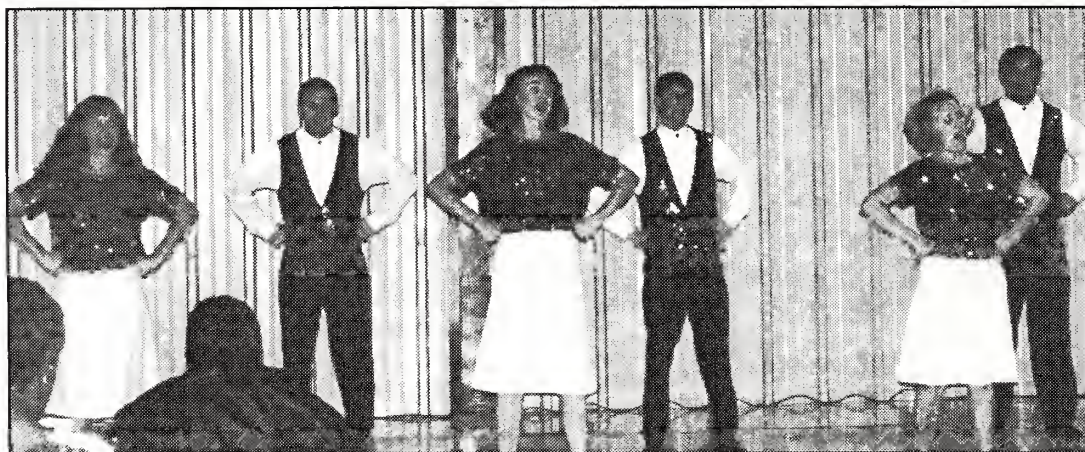
Teresa Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530  
252-524-4677





### MOC Dinner

On October 17, 2000, Mount Olive College held its annual dinner for Nash County in Whitley Center. After an enjoyable meal, the Mount Olive College Singers performed for the audience and children. Everyone enjoyed the special talents of every member. As always, we are pleased to host this event and welcome dinner participants to join us again next year. ❖



## CHILDREN'S HOME NEWS



On October 26, members of Everett's Chapel Women's Auxiliary, Clayton, NC, graciously delivered much needed items. Thank you for your support. ❖



Cecil and Caroline Moss came by our campus on November 6 to deliver "items in need" collected and donated by members of Shiloh Church and Auxiliary, Pinetown, NC. Thank you to each contributing member. ❖





## Shepherd's House Opens

On November 15, 2000 our longterm group home for boys, Shepherd's House, opened in Bailey, NC. One boy, age 15, was admitted on November 16. Because you believe in what we stand for and because you love children, you have helped us to again meet the needs of all children. Thank you for supporting your child care ministry with your prayers, time, and dedication. Thank you for helping us to meet our financial needs, so hurting children and families have a shoulder to "lean on." ❖



## Student's Visit From MOC

Mount Olive Free Will Baptist fellowship and Student Government Association, along with the Rev. Frank Harrison, held devotion and fellowship with the residents of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on October 17. At the end of the evening, they were given a tour of Smith Cottage. Thank you for the giving of your time, your prayers, but mostly your hearts. ❖

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED



- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Encyclopedias (CD Rom)
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Golf Cart
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Various Types Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Hot Flat Irons for Hair
- ☐ Gym Bags
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamp
- ☐ Desk Lamps
- ☐ Large Electric Griddles
- ☐ Large Electric Fry Pans
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games (rated E)
- ☐ 5 Wooden Glider Swings
- ☐ Charter Bus to Zoo (approx. \$1500.00)
- ☐ Board Games (*Bible Bingo, Girl Talk, Operation, Battleship, Who Wants To Be A Millionaire*)
- ☐ Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Pole Lamps
- ☐ 3 ring binders (1"-1 1/2")



# A Noble Story

by Edmundo G. Gonzalez

**H**e stood in the middle of the dusty road, looking up the incline and at the house he had built. Having kept secret the construction of the building from his wife of fifty-nine years, he now wondered how he would bring her here and tell her, "this is your house." This is a story of a humble, patient, dedicated man of God.

Toribio Lugo was born of a peasant family in Mexico, April 10, 1925. They lived in the state of Nuevo Leon, where Toribio became a simple shepherd in charge of the family's sheep and goat herds; having little or no time for a formal education.

In June 1941, he married Ernestina Rodriguez Rocha, his young sweetheart. She was fifteen years old and he sixteen. Out of this union were born nine children. In time, they all became believers in Jesus Christ.

Two of the young sons are ministers in the Free Will Baptist Church of Mexico.

Toribio was converted in 1963 in his home state of Nuevo Leon. Three years later he began his ministry as assistant pastor in the same church where he had been converted. Not long after, he began a ministry in two nearby villages establishing mission churches.

In August 1973, Toribio decided to move his family to the large city of Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila by the Rio Grande that borders with Del Rio, Texas. This place became their permanent home where Toribio and his wife would establish a large church and a home for their growing brood.

They wondered how they could establish a church in a place like Acuna. It was easy back in Nuevo Leon. They worked in isolated villages and among



a receptive people. But here? Toribio remembered that the Apostle Paul on his journey to Philippi, stopped by "a city by a riverside, where prayer was wont to be made" (Acts 16: 13) and spoke to people there. This would be the strategy that Toribio would use. Sunday mornings they would stand at the corner of the street and witness and pray

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*Two of the young sons  
are ministers in the  
Free Will Baptist  
Church of Mexico.*

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with people who came by. This they did for a time until a small nucleus of believers was gathered and began meeting in his house. Unknown to the Lugos, the street corner where they began their

ministry would become the cornerstone of their new Temple. On that corner lot now stands a grand building, the Tabernacle Church.

At the same time that the church structure was being built, Toribio was looking for property to build his wife a new house. The house where they lived was located in a low area of the street and when it rained, the streets would be flooded for days. He needed a new place. He found and bought a small piece of property, and for three years he secretly worked on their new house, finally completing it.

He stood now in the middle of the road looking up the incline at the new house and wondered how he could bring his wife here and while inside the house tell her, "this is your house."

They often visited the homes in their community, so Toribio asked his wife to go with him and visit a member of the congregation who was sick. The member lived next to the new house Toribio had built. When the Lugo's finished their visit, he asked his wife to come with him and look at the new house next door.

While there he showed her the new, freshly painted rooms and the facilities. He asked her if she liked the house. Of course, she did! and asked "Whose house is this?" With a wide smile on his face he answered, "This is your house." In unbelief Mrs. Lugo said, "What?" "Yes, this is your house, I built it for you. It took me three years to do it secretly, so I could surprise you." They now live in their new house and the streets do not flood when it rains. ♦



# Bayanihan Evangelism on the Run

by Pastor Arman R. Manzano

**G**lory to God ! The Central District laborers of the Free Will Baptist Church are committed to unite the strength and effort for the full operation of Bayanihan Evangelism.

By His grace we were able to start last July, 2000, in Anilawan, Victory Free Will Baptist Church that has been pastored by Raul Galfo, approximately sixty kilometers away from the heart of Puerto Princesa City. Many souls came and received Christ as their Saviour. As of now, some of them became active in the church while the pastor is very busy doing the follow up by cell—grouping them. We did the second trip of this kind of evangelism in Emmanuel Free Will Baptist Church, Barangay San Pedro, Puerto Princesa City, pastored by the Rev. and Mrs. Andrino Segay (full-time volunteer laborers). Here we experienced another type of field in sowing the seed. We sowed the precious seed and few fell on the good ground. But on the other hand we still firmly believe that His Word will not return to Him void "But it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11).



*Top: Revival and Crusade at San Jose outreach Free Will Baptist Church.*

*Center: His servants on the way from San Jose outreach after Revival and Crusade.*

*Bottom: After sharing the gospel, the Herera family recieved Christ. Praise God! San Jose outreach.*

We brought the third force at Bayanihan Evangelism in San Jose a new outreach, when a young laborer was assigned, Pastor Jerry Evangelista. We spent two days here in sharing the gospel by team. Once again we experienced His direction and the power of the Holy Spirit in bringing the love of God to the lost.

Praise God for the winning of souls for Christ! The team returned with joy

and an inspired heart because of the harvest of souls for Him.

During the last night we had a film showing, revival and crusade, challenging them to a deeper commitment for Christ.

I would like to thank God and appreciation to the participating churches within the district who fully support our financial needs.

Please pray for the upcoming Bayanihan Evangelism in Caruray outreach of San Vicente Palawan.

May the Lord continue to grant our basic needs. And we do pray for the service loan of Central District laborers. One thing I know as the church expands the vision the Lord will extend His provision. Glory be to our God.





# JANUARY

Prayer Co

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SUN	MON	TUE	W
	1 Happy New Year!  FWB Press Closed FWB Bookstores Closed FWB Headquarters Closed	2	3
7	8	9  MOC Spring Semester Begins	10
14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31



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**Things to Remember** \_\_\_\_\_  
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THU		FRI		SAT	
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	11	12		13	
	18	19		20	
	25	26		27	

# ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

*Sunday, February 18, 2001*

College Hall, Mount Olive College

5:00— 8:00 PM

*Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions  
of OFWB International*

Speaker: Dr. William Bennett

Schedule:

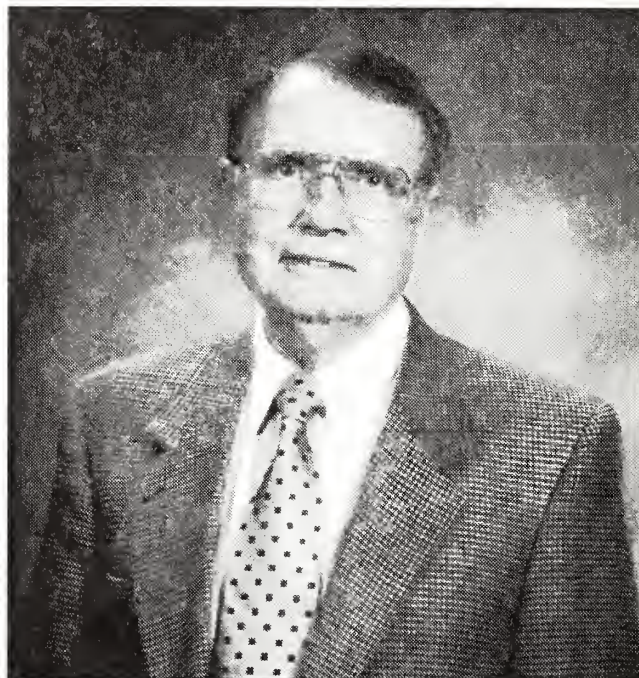
First Session — 5:00 PM

Light Meal — 6:00 PM

Final Session — 7:00 PM

**D**r. William Bennett has spoken many times at Free Will Baptist gatherings and always has a timely and spiritually deep message that challenges and inspires those who attend. Dr. Bennett has been a very successful pastor. He pastored many Southern Baptist Churches, but his most notable pastorate was the First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas, that grew from 800 to 8,000 under his leadership. He is currently Chaplain at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and professor of Preaching at the Seminary. Dr. Bennett has traveled and spoke about missions around the world.

We encourage churches throughout the denomination to call off your Evening Worship Service on February 18 and attend the Missions Confer-



ence. This will be an exciting time of fellowship, worship and music. Plan now to attend.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE - RESPONSE NEEDED**

A light meal will be served, at no charge, but in order to prepare the proper amount of food we need to know how many will be attending from each church. Please call our office (252) 746-4963 by February 12, and give the church name and the number that will be attending. (If no one is in the office, please leave the information on the answering machine.)



*Board of Foreign Missions of OFWB International  
Post Office Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513 • (252) 746-4963*

# Foreign Missions Annual Telethon

**Sunday, March 25, 2001**

**Dial (252) 746-4963 between 1:30 & 5:30 PM**

**Theme: "Love Has a Price Tag."**

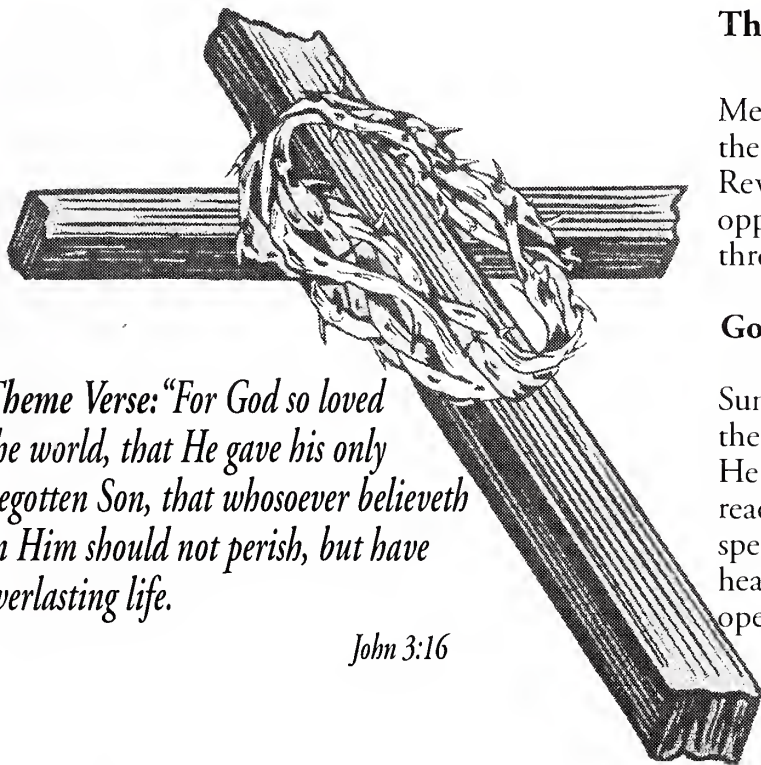
Dear Lord, Help us reach the Philippines, Mexico, Nepal, India, Bulgaria and the nations of the earth. The Telethon and Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions gives us the opportunity to remember the nations of the earth through prayer and giving.

**Goal 2001: \$190,000**

A total of \$190,000 in gifts on Telethon Sunday. This goal can easily be reached, if we ask the Lord to help us love the peoples of the earth as He loved and give of ourselves and our means to reach them. Pray daily for this goal. Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30 PM. God hears our prayer and sees our giving and blesses us openly.

*Theme Verse: "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

*John 3:16*



## Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions March 25, 2001

**Prayer Goal March 25:** All Churches joining together in united prayer during the Morning Worship Hour in one accord for revival. Let us pray!

*Prayer for others is a true expression of love that refreshes our souls!*



**Board of Foreign Missions, OFWB International**  
Post Office Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513 • (252) 746-4963



# Ministry to the H'mong

by Dr. Graham Lane

For more than 20 years Original Free Will Baptists have been ministering to the H'mong people from Laos. The H'mongs are in America because of the Vietnam conflict. They fled to America for freedom. Today we continue our Ethnic Ministry as we serve the H'mong people through the Lao Evangelical Church of America. From a group of about 50 H'mongs, we have helped them grow to 19 congregations throughout America. There are worship groups in California, Oregon, Minnesota, North Carolina, Utah, Nevada, and others to be established in Wisconsin. The Lao Evangelical Church is an associate member of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Recently I had the privilege to attend the National Meeting of the Lao Evangelical Church, held at their headquarters in Fresno, California. Traveling with me was the Rev. Al Markuson, Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism, his wife Kathy, their daughter Le Anne, and Mr. Phil Rawls of Trent Original Free Will Baptist Church, Merritt, North Carolina. At this meeting we were privileged to bring the keynote address. There were approximately 300 ministers, delegates and members from local congregations. New officers were elected as follows: the Rev. Joshua Bee Lee, President, the Rev. Xeng Yang, Vice President.

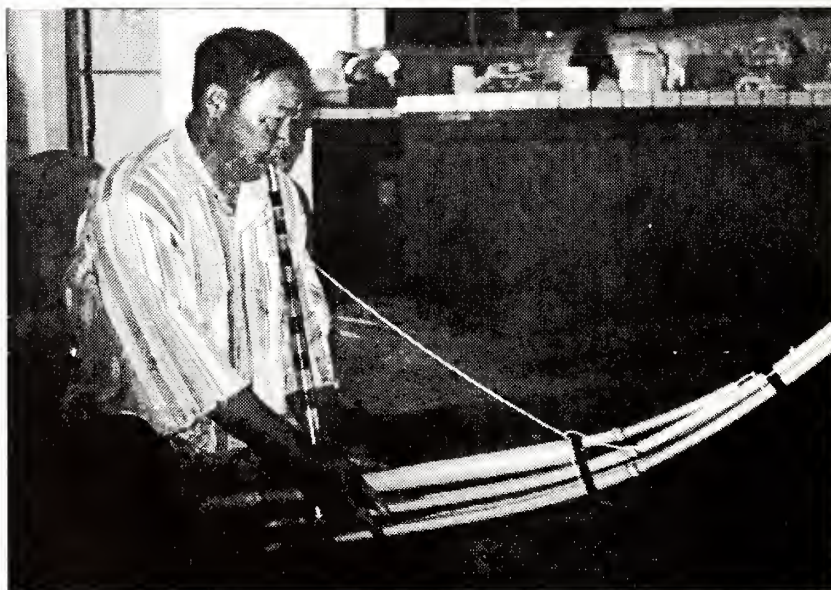
We also had the opportunity to visit in the home of the Rev. Harold Laltral, pastor of Porterville Church. For entertainment, Mr. Cher Chue Cha played the native musical instrument qeej.

We, as Original Free Will Baptists should reflect on the Scripture from Acts 1:8. It is our responsibility to share God's word with those persons here in America that God has so provided us the opportunity. I challenge you and your church to invite us to your church to share how God is ministering to the H'mongs (Lao Evangelical Church) through the Original Free Will Baptists.

For more information on the H'mongs please contact Home Missions and Evangelism, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513 or telephone (252) 746-4963.



*Top: Dr. Graham Lane (center) Home Missions Ethnic Ministry Coordinator was asked to sit with the National Board during their sessions. Left: Layman, Phil Rawls, Fresno, CA at LEC Annual Meeting. Above: Rev. Joshua Bee Lee, new president of Lao Evangelical Church of America, and Rev. Xeng Yang, vice president. Below: Cher Choe Cha, Porterville, CA playing QEEJ instrument.*





## Christmas Comes Early for Mount Olive College... College Receives Positive News from SACS

**T**he Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)\* announced Tuesday afternoon, December 5, that all sanctions concerning Mount Olive College have been dropped. In particular, the one-year probation issued to the College in June has been terminated after only six months.

"We can be grateful for this blessing with special thanks to all of our people, beginning with the Board of Trustees who have worked so diligently to make this happen. I am especially thankful to all of our employees, students, and supporters who have believed in the College and who have now been rewarded for their faith and loyalty," commented Dr. J. William Byrd, president of the College.

Mount Olive College was placed on probation in June with regard to debt the College incurred beginning back in the mid-1980s when it made the transition from a two-year to a four-year institution. Over the last several months, the College has been working to significantly reduce its debt and to move from an institution financed by individuals to one backed by a major financial institution of the southeast – BB&T.

As part of the evaluation process, a special committee appointed by SACS visited Mount Olive College in October to review its financial progress. Mount Olive College's report to the committee upon their visit, the committee's report following its visit, and Mount Olive College's response to the follow-up report were the basic documents presented at the December 2 annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Representatives from Mount Olive College in attendance at the meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia, were; Dr. J. William Byrd, president; Mr. C. Darrell Horne, chairman of the Board of Trustees; Mr. Nigle B. Barrow, Jr., vice chair of the Board of Trustees; Dr. James A. Coats, vice president for finance and treasurer; and Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, vice president for special services.

"The action to remove Mount Olive

College from all sanctions was based on the financial progress the College has recently made. SACS looked carefully at the secure and long-term program that the College has put into place with its financial partners BB&T to amortize the College's indebtedness over an extended period. They were pleased with our progress," Dr. Byrd stated.

### College Improves Financial Strength

Mount Olive College received its fifth consecutive favorable audit in September. The audit shows a 30% reduction in indebtedness over the last year, a positive bottom line, and good cash flow. In addition, the College closed a \$7 million dollar loan last February from BB&T and is using these funds to pay off unsecured loans from individuals, thereby eliminating the College's short-term financial exposure which was a major concern with SACS. The College also took the extraordinary step of reducing its debt by about \$5 million dollars.

"Now that we have successfully proven our financial stability to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, we can appreciate the many people whose support never wavered and who helped us through this experience. We thank the students who chose Mount Olive College and who are glad they are here, the alumni who rallied behind their alma mater, the bankers who believed in the College and funded us, our donors who responded with an outpouring of financial assistance, the Free Will Baptist Church which stood firmly with us, and all our many supporters in the community. We also thank the people and businesses of Mount Olive who understand just how important Mount Olive College is to the local economy. To all of these people, we extend our warmest gratitude for being an important part of Mount Olive College and helping ensure our successful future," Dr. Byrd concluded.

*\*Mount Olive College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. ❖*

*Mount Olive College's  
18th Annual Basketball*

## Church Night

*Saturday, February 3, 2001*



Special Recognition to the church  
with the largest attendance!  
Drawing For Door Prizes!

Lady Trojans vs. Erskine College  
5:30 PM, College Hall

Trojans vs. Erskine College  
7:30 PM, College Hall

**Special Tickets \$1.00**

To reserve your tickets, call Brad Massey in the Admissions office today!

(919) 658-2502 or  
(800) 653-0854

## Experience Mount Olive College

Mount Olive College invites you to start the new year with us! MOC offers a wide range of educational opportunities including our traditional programs that will begin on Tuesday, January 9, 2001. We also offer accelerated programs in Management and Organizational Development, Church Ministries, and Criminal Justice for Professionals in Mount Olive, Goldsboro, New Bern, Wilmington, and the Research Triangle Park that conveniently begin throughout the year. For more information on how you can experience life at Mount Olive College, contact Barbara Kornegay, vice president for enrollment, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3100, or see our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu). ❖



## Mount Olive College Celebrates Founders Day & Honors Employees

**M**ount Olive College honored 19 employees and celebrated 49 years of providing Christian higher education at the College's Annual Founders Day Worship Service.

Faculty, staff, students, and friends from Free Will Baptist churches filled Rodgers Chapel to hear Dr. Deborah H. King, assistant professor, school of education and coordinator of elementary education at Barton College, deliver the Founders Day address.

"Mount Olive College was founded in 1951. On this Founders Day, it is fitting that we should look back and celebrate the past and be challenged by the future," King stated.

In her remarks entitled "Casting A Long Shadow," King referenced Acts 5: 15 that talked about Peter's positive shadow and the similarities of Mount Olive College's positive shadow.

"The College casts its shadow over all its students, both traditional and non-traditional, by equipping them with the skills needed for life and career in an environment nurtured with Christian values."

She continued by telling how the College casts its shadow on its alumni, on the community, both economically and culturally, on the Free Will Baptist Church, and on the state, region and nation. King challenged the College to strive to cast a longer shadow now more than at any other time in the College's 49-year history.

"As long as the shadow of this College is, it must be longer still. We cannot rest upon our laurels and accomplishments of the past. We must stay focused to our mission. The Lord did not call us just to start the race; he calls us to finish it. The Lord is giving this College increased opportunities under the very capable leadership of Dr. Byrd to develop new curricula and new programs; to establish new sites and facilities; to expand services and outreach to the Free Will Baptist Church; to implement state-of-the-art technologies; and to ensure economic well-being through

permanent endowments. It would be a shame for us not to determine that with God's help, the shadow we cast as a College in the future will be longer than ever before," King concluded.

Also during the service, Dr. J. William Byrd, president of the College, recognized faculty and staff for their continued dedicated efforts to Mount Olive College. He presented each with a gift engraved with the College seal.

Others participating in the Founders Day service were: Dianne B. Riley, director of alumni relations; the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, Board of Trustees 1953-1955; the Rev. Leon Grubbs, president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; Shannon Mixon, president of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship; and the Mount Olive College Concert Choir, directed by Dr. Alan Armstrong. ♦



**D**r. J. William Byrd, president of Mount Olive College, recognized faculty and staff for their continued dedicated efforts to the College during the annual Founders Day Service. Pictured front row (L-R): Judy C. Tyndall, controller, 10 years; Dr. James A. Coats, vice president for finance, 25 years; Perry L. Turnage, building and grounds, 10 years; Pamela R. Wood, interim director of library services, 30 years; Jean F. Ackiss, director of church support, 35 years; Mary S. Outlaw, food services, 10 years; and Dr. J. William Byrd. Back Row (L-R): Leland E. Howell, building and grounds, 10 years; Nancy J. Westfall, director of development support services, 5 years; Cheryl A. Hooks, assistant pro-

fessor of fine arts, 5 years; Kay S. Fail, secretary for student development, 10 years; Dr. Henry J. Day II, interim dean school of business, 5 years; and Kenneth W. Dilda, associate professor of history, 30 years. Not pictured were: Dr. Edward Ron Mendell, former chair of the department of recreation leisure studies, 15 years; David L. Bourgeois, registrar, 5 years; Rena M. Espinosa, administrator New Bern location, 5 years; Philmore A. George, professor of recreation leisure studies, 5 years; Janice M. Meyers, campus administrator Wilmington location, 5 years; Jean H. Piner, assessment counselor Wilmington location, 5 years; and Ray M. Smith, assistant director of evening college admissions, 5 years. ♦



## Founders Day Speakers

Back row (L-R): Dr. J. William Byrd, president; Shannon Mixon, president of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship; and the Rev. Leon Grubbs, president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Front row (L-R): the Rev. Bruce Barrow, Board of Trustees 1953-1955; Dr. Deborah H. King, assistant professor, school of education and coordinator of elementary education at Barton College; and Dianne B. Riley, director of alumni relations. ❖



## M O C UPCOMING EVENTS

**The Spring I 2001 Semester**—will begin at Mount Olive College's Goldsboro location on Monday, January 8, 2001. For more information, contact Pam Harris, secretary for MOC at Goldsboro, at (919) 734-8585 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**The Spring 2001 Semester**—will begin at Mount Olive College's Mount Olive location on Tuesday, January 9, 2001. For more information about class schedules or on how you can enroll, contact the admissions office at (919) 658-2502.

**Mount Olive College at the Research Triangle Park**—will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Tuesday, January 9, 2001 and a Criminal Justice for Professionals accelerated program on Monday, January 22, 2001. For more information about the MOD program, contact Carmella Cohen, program representative, at 1-888-258-5188 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu). For more information about the CJP program, contact Mike Stephens, program representative, at 1-888-258-5188 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**Mount Olive College's Campus Visitation Day**—will be on Monday, January 15, 2001. Registration will be in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center at 9:30 a.m. For more information, contact Tim Woodard, director of admissions, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3010.

**Mount Olive College at Wilmington**—will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Thursday, January 18, 2001. For more information, contact Roy Campbell, director of MOC at Wilmington, at 1-800-300-7478 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**Mount Olive College at New Bern** will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Wednesday, January 4, 2001. For more information, contact Beth Bowes, program representative, at 1-800-868-8479 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**A Piano Recital**—will be held on Tuesday, January 30, 2001 at 7:30 PM in Rodgers Chapel. The program will feature Mr. Tasker Polk. Admission is free

and the public is invited to attend. For more information, contact Irene Weldon, professor of music, at (919) 658-7166.

**Mount Olive College's Transfer Day**—will be on Thursday, February 1, 2001. Registration will be in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center at 9:15 AM For more information, contact Tim Woodard, director of admissions, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3010.

**Mount Olive College at Mount Olive**—will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Wednesday, February 7, 2001. For more information, contact Ray Smith, assistant director of evening college admissions, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3012 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**Church Night**—will be on Saturday, February 3, 2001 in College Hall. The College's men's and women's basketball teams are set to play Erskine College with the games beginning at 5:30 PM. For more information, contact Brad Massey, admissions counselor, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3095. ❖



## A Tribute to Miss Pattie Davis

by the Rev. Frank Harrison

*This tribute was made during  
Mount Olive College's  
Annual Homecoming  
Weekend*

In the Book of Genesis, Chapter 45, there is the story of Joseph and his brothers who meet and Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers. They had previously sold him as a slave, but now he is next to the Pharaoh in power in Egypt, having prepared the people for a terrible famine in the land. The brothers are terrified when Joseph reveals his identity, thinking that surely Joseph will now get even with them. But, what a surprise from Joseph! Rather than revenge, he tells his brothers an amazing thing: that God had sent him ahead of his brothers that he might be of help to them and help preserve them. Joseph could see the gracious hand of God in the whole experience.

Like Joseph, the Lord sent ahead of us Miss Pattie Davis to help us, and for our good. When I came to Mount Olive College in the fall of 1959, I had no idea what to expect. I came from Martin County and Mount Olive College was a long way from home.

Upon arriving on campus, I was met by a lady who worked in the cafeteria and she had the warmest smile that one could imagine — and she was an excellent cook! Her fried chicken was legendary! Within a matter of days Miss Pattie had me under her wing and I knew everything would be all right. With a great sense of humor, a jolly smile, and a deep love of students, Pattie Davis quickly became the “mother hen” not only to me, but a lot of other students.

I cannot begin to tell you of all the contributions this lady made to me during my years at Mount Olive, and the summer I worked with her in the kitchen at Cragmont. What wonderful memories I have of that summer in 1960 at Cragmont, the many trips we took into the mountains of western North Carolina. She seemed always to know exactly



*Above: Alton Cowan '59 is presenting a plaque to Miss Pattie Davis in honor of the endowment Alton, Frank Harrison, and friends helped establish in Miss Davis' name.*

what to prepare to eat on the trip and always included good country ham biscuits.

After that wonderful summer, we came back for the second year of college where Miss Pattie was a continuing positive influence in my life.

I did not have a car so she let me use her car to go to preaching appointments. She had the ability to see the good and the potential in students. Words of encouragement and guidance seem to come at the right time and the right place. Her Christian witness and Rock Ridge wisdom has always been a light

and inspiration to me and to others who know her.

Miss Patti, no words can ever fully express my appreciation to you. I do not know what I would have done without you and your loving guidance during those years.

Surely, the Lord sent you ahead of us to help us along the way. I thank God for you, and Barbara and I are very proud to be a part of the establishment of the Pattie Davis Scholarship Endowment for needy and worthy Free Will Baptist students. We love you and may God continue to richly bless you always.

# Sunday School Charms

## YEAR OF CELEBRATION

As early as 1893, the Cape Fear Conference voted to adopt FWB 'Sabbath' school literature for use in our churches. Further records indicate that formalized emphasis on Sunday school work began as early as 1921, just 8 years after the establishment of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists. After many years of 'peaks and valleys,' there seemed to be a need to revive the state-wide work for the Sunday school and the North Carolina State Sunday Convention was formally established in September of 1940 by recommendation of the NC State Convention. In 1989, the Sunday School Convention was dissolved and became the Sunday School Board, the tenth ministry of the Convention. After studying the efforts of church leaders during the 1920s, it would seem that 2001 is the year to celebrate Sunday schools in the Original Free Will Denomination.

### *Tips for beginning a new year in Sunday School:*

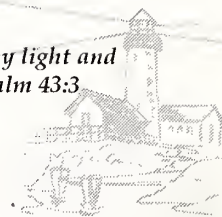
- Maintain beliefs in the eternal standards and values in the Scriptures.
- Retain or regain your commitment to God.
- Review the Original Free Will Baptist Doctrine.
- Keep a positive attitude.
- Expect great, but realistic, things to happen.
- Spend time looking at what you got rather than what you didn't get.
- Maintain a sense of humor.
- Take time to think.
- Inspire rather than impress.
- Let change be your ally rather than your enemy.
- Before you criticize, be ready to provide an alternative.
- Learn from the past; be ready to learn from and adapt to the present; prepare and plan for the future.
- Sunday school workers should be **Faithful, Available, and Trainable.**

For information or assistance with your Sunday School, contact:

Mary M. Dudley  
OFWB Sunday School Ministry  
PO Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513  
Telephone: (252) 746-4963



"Send out thy light and truth..." Psalm 43:3



## "Pillars of Faith"

At Camp Vandemere a spirit of revival has pervaded the campus. The destruction of Hurricanes Dennis and Floyd has been cleaned up and repaired. The campus is in the best shape it has been in year. New equipment, table, chairs, sound system and piers let everyone know that Vandemere was on the way up again. One of the things we were excited about was our new pool. We had purchased a "top of the line" model for a good price and had moved it to higher ground. You can't imagine our disappointment when we learned that a new state regulation would close our pool. Inspectors from the state locked the gate on July 17, 2000.

Our new pool has been sold but now we are in need of a twenty by forty foot pool, which will cost us according to state standards approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000.

Since the expense of the hurricane damage was tremendous. We now must turn to the faithful friends of Vandemere again and ask for your support and prayers. We are instituting a "Pillars of Faith" campaign in order to raise funds for this pool. Four pillars will be erected at the corners of the pool. They will display the names of those donating \$1000 or more (Gold level) towards the purchase of the pool. Those giving \$500 to \$251 (Silver Level) will have their names

on a plaque displayed at the camp. Those giving \$250 to \$100 (Bronze Level) will be sent a Certificate of Recognition. All Contributors will be given a receipt for their gift. We are asking Sunday schools, youth groups, women's groups, men's groups, individuals, and churches to consider pledging \$1000 which may be raised over the course of next year, or to help by a one-time donation. The need, however, is immediate!

This project is one that will determine the future of the camp; that we all love so dear. Please encourage your groups to help us make this necessity a reality. Thank you. ❖

## "Pillars of Faith"



I (We) the undersigned agree to become a

"Pillar of Faith"

by pledging

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

towards the purchase of a Commercial Grade Pool for Camp Vandemere.

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Our monies will be sent in ☐ monthly, ☐ quarterly, or ☐ yearly to complete our pledge.

Signature (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send To:**

Mrs. Judith Kennedy  
933 N. NC, 41  
Pink Hill, NC 28572

**For further information contact:**

Mike Williams at (252) 745-3171  
Joe Ratcliff at (252) 244-0207

## Core Point Church Challenge

by Dr. Timothy Webber, Pastor Core Point Original Free Will Baptist Church

There is a small island in the south pacific that annually dedicates a day of praise and thanksgiving to God for protecting them from another devastating hurricane like they once had. Following their example, God has laid it on the hearts of Core Point Chapel to challenge each church in the Eastern Conference to donate a hurricane offering of \$500 to Camp Vandemere to install an above-ground pool.

Our church has approximately thirty active members, but God has supplied this need. You say your budget will not handle that and you may be right if you are serving a God that can't walk on water, call fire down from Heaven, part seas, or cause donkeys to speak with the tongues of man. What God wants to know is do each one of you have \$500

deductible to pay every time He allows a storm to strike the building with which He has blessed you. Folks, check your insurance policies, this pastor does his homework before bringing God's request to His people.

We had twenty-nine young souls saved and/or rededicated last year at Camp Vandemere. Children don't come to camps they find unattractive.

I leave this thought with you. May I refer you to (Matthew 19:13-14), the very heart of Christ and little children. Are we supporting our camp counselors with the proper equipment and tools to use to bring our children to Christ? "Heavenly Father, now we ask that You glorify Your Son through the Original Free Will Baptist Church in Jesus' name we pray, Amen." ❖

## "Pillars of Faith"

by Lisa Barton, President

For months the Fifth Union Eastern District Youth for Christ Rally has been searching for an outreach project to take on. We want to show people that we still exist and we care. We haven't been successful until a few weeks ago.

Camp Vandemere is in need of a pool. Last summer one of the repair projects was to replace the pool. It was brought to their attention that Camp Vandemere could no longer have an above ground pool and they had to shut down the existing pool. Camp Vandemere had to have an in ground pool if they were to have one at all; but it is well known that these things don't come cheap. They have asked for help from the community. They have designed a project called "Pillars of Faith." The pool will have a fence surrounding it, with pillars located in the corners. These pillars will list the names of people or organizations that have graciously given at least \$1,000.00 toward this project, (those giving less will be recognized also). Every little bit counts!

Youth for Christ Rally has found an opportunity to share the blessings that God has given us. Camp Vandemere has

been very good to us and it's time we return the favor. We have set up a project that will take course during the next year to give money for the "Pillars of Faith." We have designed a "Goal Board" for each church to come and mark off the amount that they are contributing for Camp Vandemere to help Youth for Christ Rally to meet our goal. We are challenging the churches within the Fifth Union to raise money for this purpose. As long as people are willing to pull together God will provide for us.

❖

## What If It Were You

by Megan Fisher

What if it were you who was  
born in a manger,  
And the world looked to you  
As if you were a stranger?  
Yet you knew in your heart  
That you were the Son of God,  
But people still stared at you  
As if you acted odd?

What if it were you  
Who calmed the stormy sea,  
And when you ever spoke a word  
The rulers disagreed?  
And as the people listened  
You spoke a great message,  
As the Pharisees looked at you  
Their hearts filled with hatred?

What if it were you  
Who healed the deaf and blind,  
Who forgave all the sinners  
And cleansed their hearts and  
minds?  
The one who had the followers  
The one who chose twelve men,  
And when one of those betrayed  
you,

What if it were you  
That they nailed to the Cross,  
With a crown of thorns upon you  
Would you think that all was lost?  
Or would you think as Jesus did  
As, He hung at Calvary,  
For because He shed His holy blood  
I will live eternally.

(Megan is a member of Faith Original Free Will Baptist Church, Morehead City, NC.)

## One Hundred and Twenty Year Celebration

by Lonnie W. Worrell

Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, West Mount Drive, Nashville, NC, held its 120 year celebration on Sunday, November 5, 2000. The service began with Sunday school at 10:00 AM followed by the 11:00 AM morning worship service.

A history of the church was given and several long-time members gave short remarks of remembrances of days gone by. There were also remarks by some of our former pastors of their days with the people of Barnes Hill Church. An inspir-

ing short message was given by Dr. Joe Ingram, pastor.

After the message the youth released 120 balloons in the parking lot commemorating our 120 years of sharing God's Word and taking God's message of love to the lost. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch in the fellowship hall, thanking God for His blessings. The day was enjoyed by all. A 6:00 PM message ended this memorable day. ❖





## An Evening of Fun and Fellowship

by Willa Dean Daughtry

On October 21, 2000, approximately one hundred youth and adults came to Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, 3311 Newton Grove Hwy, Newton Grove, N.C. anticipating an evening of fun and fellowship. They were not disappointed. The fellowship hall was decorated with a fall theme and sectioned into areas for games—Go Fish, Lucky Duck, Humphrey, Balloon Bob-

bin, Bite the Doughnuts, and the very popular Cake Walk.

Hot dogs with trimmings were served throughout the evening. Donations were made for youth projects.

Many thanks go to our youth directors Rhonda West and Wanda West for working so hard to make our first Fall Festival a great success. ❖



Above: Randall and Pat Jarman with youth members: Brittany Horton, Ben Carraway, and Sarah Beth Carraway.

## Youth Group Fills Shoeboxes For Clown Ministry

The Howell Swamp Nite Owls II youth group wanted to bring a little cheer to needy children overseas. The group filled over 40 shoeboxes with toys, gloves, hats, candy, healthcare products, and school supplies for infants, children, and teenagers. The shoeboxes were given to Randall Jarman, clown missionary, to be taken

to his next mission outreach. Each shoebox will contain Christian literature in the children's native language.

Jarman presented a slide presentation of his trip to the Ukraine at Howell Swamp Church in Walstonburg in August. The Nite Owls II raised funds for the project through donations and a Grandparents' Day show. ❖

## Powhatan's November Report

by Rita O. Jones

The Cape Fear District elected youth officers for 2001 at the Rally held November 4 at St. Mary's Grove Church, Benson, NC. Congratulations to the three young ladies from Powhatan who will be serving this year.

Some of the youth gathered to paint the storage building behind the church on November 10. A thank you to Deacon Greg Bass for supplying the paint equipment and for overseeing the job.

November 15 was the Pre-Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary. Jean Blinson Hatch, who grew up at Powhatan, spoke and sang with her daughters. She told how much the church meant to her family and about an experience she had at Cragmont one summer. She gave a wonderful testimony for the Lord and for her Christian upbringing.

November 19 was the date of our Pastor Appreciation Meal after morning worship service, and we all enjoyed the heavy snow that was falling! Services for the remainder of the day were cancelled due to the unexpected accumulation.

The joint Thanksgiving community singing on Wednesday November 22 was a great success. We joined Amelia and Trinity as well as the Everett Chapel members for our annual singing. Thank you to Everett Chapel for use of their church and to Amelia for hosting the event.

Another snow storm kept the church doors closed on December 3, but the YFAs had enjoyed a lock-in on December 1. Scott Satterfield of Lee's Chapel and Kristen Carroll of Wooten's Chapel came and spoke to the youth about true worship. They said your heart has to be right in order to give true worship not just the outward signs of it. We thank them for sharing with us and being good examples to the youth in the Cape Fear District. ❖

Available January 2001  
Free Will Baptist Youth Program Books  
for Cherubs, AFC, and YFA  
\$4.50 per copy



## Old-Timey Sunday at Shady Grove Church

by Mark T. Godwin

During September we had several events at Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church to commemorate our One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of ministry.

One event was Old-Timey Sunday. Members were asked to dress in clothes that represented a period since Shady Grove was established.

We had great participation as our group picture shows. Some were dressed as farmers, soldiers, settlers, bankers, and gangsters. Of course all the ladies were southern belles regardless of what period clothing they were dressed in! It was a wonderful day as we reflected upon the accomplishments of the past as well as the hope of the future. It is a true blessing to witness such a beautiful heritage and to also have opportunity to be a part of it. ❖





## Kinston First Free Will Baptist Church Celebrates Thanksgiving



The rains came down in sheets all day Sunday, November 12, but approximately 50 members braved the elements to share in the Woman's Auxiliary Pre-Thanksgiving program. All who attended were truly blessed by this inspiring service. Auxiliary members presented the program on Wisdom. Children's Church representatives participated in the program by displaying the letters that spelled out W-I-S-D-O-M. Pastor James Owens and his wife, Brenda, shared the word through special music. After the program everyone shared in a sandwich supper.

This was a special night for our Children's Church. They were the sponsors of our Project Kids Kare in connection with Home Missions and Evangelism. Thirty-two shoeboxes were filled to overflowing with Christmas surprises for needy boys and girls. One hundred and fifty dollars was also collected to help defray the cost of shipping the boxes. They received a true blessing by sharing their bounty and being a part of this worthwhile project.

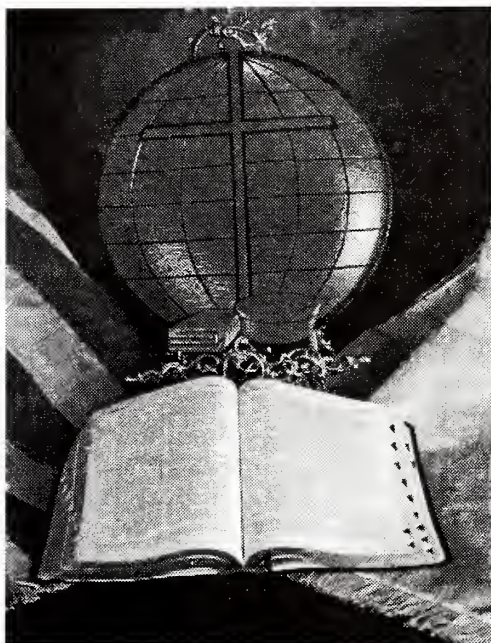
The Auxiliary collected linens for the Children's Home during the month of November. This was the final night of our linen drive. The box was filled just in time for Santa (UPS) to make a special delivery to the Children's Home. ❖

*Above: Children's Church Representatives with some of the Project Kids Kare Boxes. (L to R) Summer Jackson, Adrianna Arnette, Lauren Shackelford, Kennedy Rouse, and Jake Monroe. Center: (L to R) Ashley Bradner, Adrianna Arnette, Landon Toler, Hunter Toler, Kennedy Rouse, and Jake Monroe. Bottom: Special music by pastor James Owens and wife, Brenda.*





## A SYMBOL OF OUR FAITH AND DOCTRINE



*\*display easel and Bible not included*

• Great Gift Idea for Pastor • Every  
OFWB Church Should Display One •  
Nice Wall Hanging in Church Library,  
Pastor's Study, Foyer/Vestibule

Through the years, the Original Free Will Baptist logo has come to symbolize the faith and doctrine of Christ's people known as Original Free Will Baptists. With its globe, cross, towel and basin, no other symbol could more adequately portray the heritage of the Original Free Will Baptists. Today, you can proudly display this "Symbol of Our Faith" in a distinctive and elegant way. A replica of the Original Free Will Baptist logo is formed from a delicate mixture of recycled pecan shells and poly resin. Reproduced from a hand-carved mold, each logo exhibits the exact detail of the grain, weight and texture of wood. Each logo measures 12 inches in diameter and is hand-antiqued in walnut.

**OUR GUARANTEE** — If you are not completely satisfied with your purchase, you may return it for an exchange or a full refund (less shipping & handling charges).

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### Donation to Convention of Original Free Will Baptists



*A portion of the revenue generated from the sale of this product will be donated to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists to help advance the ministry of Jesus Christ.*

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—	Shipping & Handling (add \$7.95 each)		\$ _____
<b>TOTAL ORDER</b>			\$ _____

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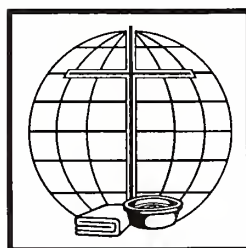
# Seek God For 2001



HOPE



HUMILITY



UNITY



PROXIMITY



RESPONSIBILITY



**Original Free Will  
Baptist**

## *Day of Prayer*

*Wednesday, February 28, 2001*

*"... That through perserverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope, " – Romans 15:4*

*The Great Palm Sunday Hope,  
Forty Days to Palm Sunday,  
February 28 to April 8, 2001*

**T**he event we have come to call "Palm Sunday" shines as a prophetic portrait of the spiritual awakening Christ desires to bring in many cities. As one of God's acted-out promises, Palm Sunday stands as a worthy culmination to this forty-day season of prayer. The day is loaded with hope.

*Original Free Will Baptist in cooperation with:*



*PrayWORLD!  
& PrayUSA!*





## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington

**T**o return to Augustine's fourth and fifth-century writings is a reading pilgrimage, an effort to enter the presence of Augustine as he sought to experience what David Hazard has called the "inner fire" of the "living, real presence of Jesus" (12). Selecting passages from Augustine's various writings, David Hazard encourages us to walk with Augustine's spirit, to sense God within Augustine that made "his own life flame so intensely" (13). Among the works consulted are these: *Confessions*, *Homilies on the Psalms*, *On Seeing God*, *On The Trinity*, *Homilies On The First Epistle of John*, and *City of God*.

### Life of Augustine

Augustine came from a small coastal village in North Africa. In 354 he was born in Thagaste where Rome's pagan authority ruled. Augustine's father was a town councillor in a village where pagan temples exalted the human body and sexuality. Augustine's mother, Monica, was an ardent Christian who constantly prayed for her son and showed him an inner Peace that came from her faith.

Augustine was educated in philosophy and began teaching. He sought to use reason as a method for discovering truth. While teaching philosophy in Milan, Italy, Augustine began to sense the vanities of philosophical reasoning. He also grew weary of his own sensual indulgences.

David Hazard describes Augustine's radical conversion one August afternoon in 386. "In a private garden behind a Mediterranean villa, he fell to his knees and ended a struggle between two voices that had been warring within him for a long time, from almost the moment of his birth" (11). What happened to Augustine? Hazard describes the conversion: "He sensed the bright-

*Augustine. Early Will I Seek You. Devotional readings arranged by David Hazard. Rekindling The Inner Fire Series. Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1987. 139 pages.*

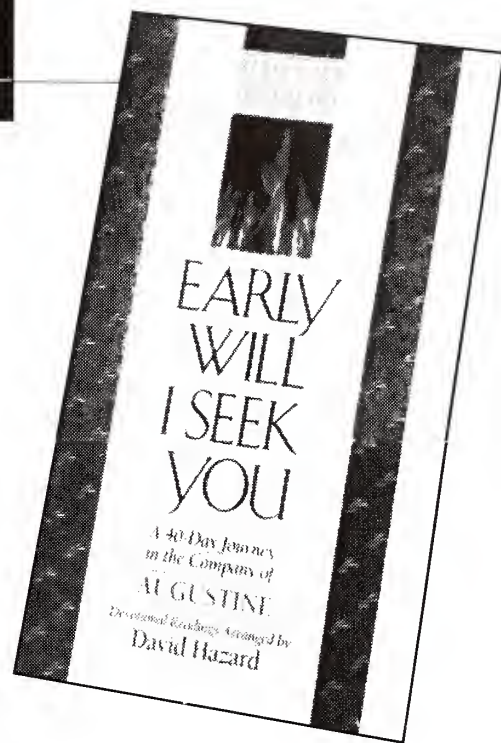
flaming presence of Jesus Christ calling him to follow a higher path. He ran from his villa to the garden, his soul in agony, tearing at his hair — Going mad on my way to sanity he later wrote (12).

Augustine became a bishop in North Africa with Ambrose as his mentor. His strength emerged as he explained his belief, as he fought heresies that threatened the church, and as he kept Rome from another series of Christian persecutions.

### The Scattered Self-Made Whole

Augustine experienced himself as "scattered" (15), as tossed and jostled "in all the outward joys and beauties" (17), as despairing when his "physical senses" (25) became merely memories, as deceived by his own "overwhelming greed" (32), as unhappy in his "worldly, self-seeking way of life" (49), as lost "in a dark forest of doubt and fear and worldliness" (52), as spiritually starved as he lets his inner man waste away by neglect" (56), as lonely because he has not "sought God in order to grow in grace" (69), as mistaken because he is "limited by fleshly senses and rational thinking" (77), and as unable to see God because he "does not love his brother" (93) enough.

What then makes this scattered self whole? Augustine confesses: "In all things that I contemplate as I am consulting you, I find no secure place for my soul except in you. And in you, I pray that what is scattered in me may be brought together, so that no part of me may be apart from you" (15).



### On Seeing God

Augustine turned to Bishop Ambrose for insight into the matter of seeing God. Ambrose stressed that a man's ability to see God first began with the cultivation of "grace in our inner man" (69). God then may choose to reveal Himself. Augustine notes: "God deigned to appear in the physical world to Abraham. When He did so, He chose to reveal himself in a very particular way that revealed some aspect of His nature, as befitting the occasion (Genesis 18). He appeared to Isaiah in another aspect of His nature, as befitting Isaiah's circumstances (Isaiah 6:1) . . . Nonetheless, in the world to come, all who are sons and daughters—all who have cleansed their hearts (Matthew 25:34)—shall see Him. Then, it will be His will to reveal Himself as He is to all. And nothing whatsoever will block our vision" (70).

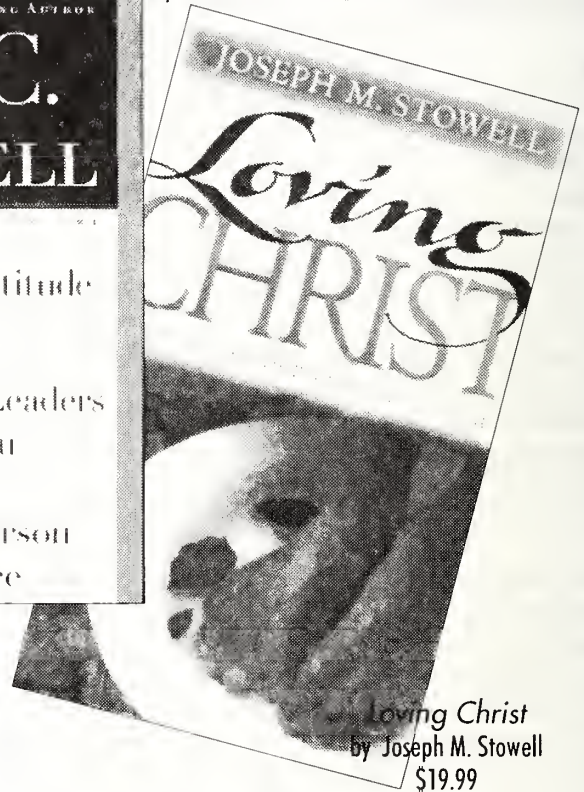
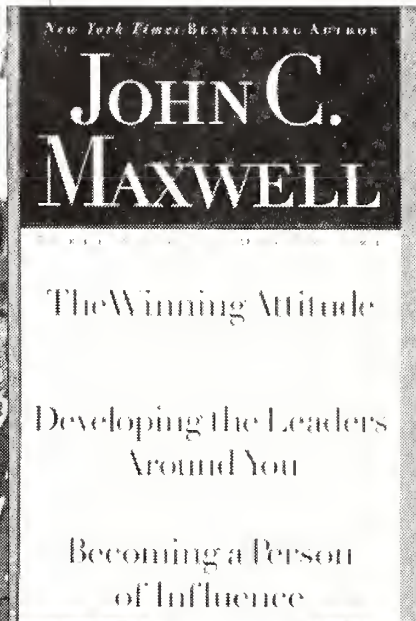
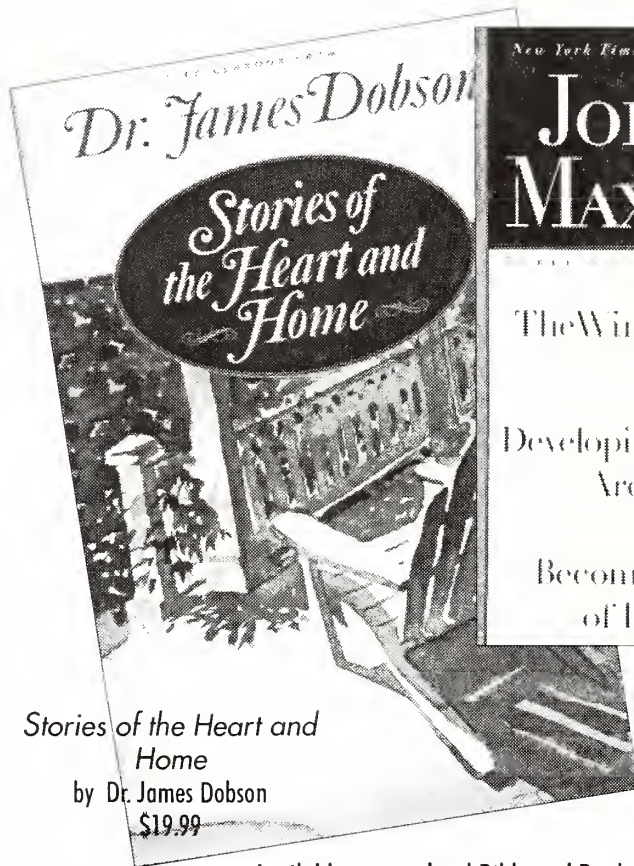
### Conclusion

Augustine emphasized the inner life, the necessity of love, the focus upon God, and the presence of God in our daily walk. The scattered self becomes whole under the grace of God. Augustine declares: "As a result of finding this inner peace of God, he becomes truly at rest (Hebrews 4:1-13)" (132). ♦



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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



FEBRUARY 2001

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The Fruit of the Spirit is LOVE  
—Galatians 5:22



## Have We Kept Our Agreement?

**O**ccasionally we should review our "Free Will Baptist Church Covenant." In so doing, we will be reminded of the promise and commitment we made with the Lord and our denomination.

The Covenant, along with our *Articles of Faith*, serves as a binding and unifying force. In them our uniqueness is established—a uniqueness we should be proud of. These important statements did not happen by chance; they were formulated, revised, and adopted by a people who loved their Lord and willingly committed themselves to the truth of His divine Word, and thus covenanted to stand firm in that commitment.

Three of the paragraphs in our Covenant use the words, "we agree." The third paragraph reads: "We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and public worship and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to 'grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.'" Paragraph five states: "We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to 'keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,' to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. In the next to the last paragraph, we read: "To this end we agree to cooperate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, the support of the work of the local church, and the evangelization of the world."

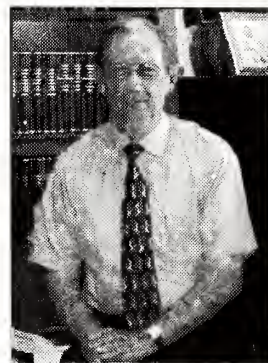
Our Covenant is an agreement-- a promise-- to be faithful as evidence of our salvation and love for the One who made our redemption possible.

It touches each facet of true discipleship. Its reading, explanation, and acceptance is required for church membership. Yet, it has been taken lightly by too many Original Free Will Baptists. It may be that some have never heard it read or explained, and others have simply failed to take it seriously, opting to ignore the solemn covenant they once promised to uphold.

We live in an era described by some as the "post-denominational" era. Simply put, this means that denominationism is on the decline. Doctrine and beliefs are not the primary consideration in the minds of many when considering a particular church. Those who unite with a church on the basis of "what can the church offer me?" are considering only one side of the coin. The other side is, "what can I offer this church?" The latter expresses a willingness to serve, rather than simply to be served. Both sides of the coin are important, but each must be properly balanced.

## Editor's thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



We have previously discussed the place that denominations have filled in the building of our society. Those outside of denominational framework may be there because they fall into the category of the nonconformist, or the person who delights in an open-ended relationship, or one who has little or no restraints. Such may be found within the denominational framework; therefore, the matter of ignoring the Covenant, or the failure to participate in or practice the basic tenets of the denominational church, becomes rather lucid.

Our Covenant represents who we are and what we are as Original Free Will Baptists. Coupled with the *Articles of Faith*, it affirms our position in Christ. To ignore or neglect any aspect is to betray that Covenant. No paragraph can be removed without diminishing its truths and principles. Though not actually removed, some have been set aside by neglect or failure to practice what we have declared to believe. Consider paragraph four:

*"We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to give according to our ability for the support of the church and all its benevolent work."*

Obviously, a greater number of church members attend the worship services than any other of those mentioned. But what about church conferences? What about the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel? It would be interesting to know what percentage of members in each of our churches attend the church conference (business meeting) and what percentage participate in the observance of the Lord's Supper and the Washing of the Saints' Feet. Both of these are sadly neglected by many professed Christians. What a blessing they are missing, and they do so in disobedience to what the Lord instructed and in violation of our Church Covenant.

I have always believed that a Free Will Baptist is one who believes as a Free Will Baptist, lives by the principles of its doctrines which is based on the authority of His Word, supports the ministries and work of the denomination, faithfully participates in and observes the ordinances of the Gospel (including the Washing of the Saints' Feet), and does so without reservation. To do otherwise, be it minister or layman, is to ignore the agreement once made with the Lord and with the church. ❖



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## NEXT MONTH

*March is  
Foreign Missions  
Month*



*February is  
Sunday School  
Month*



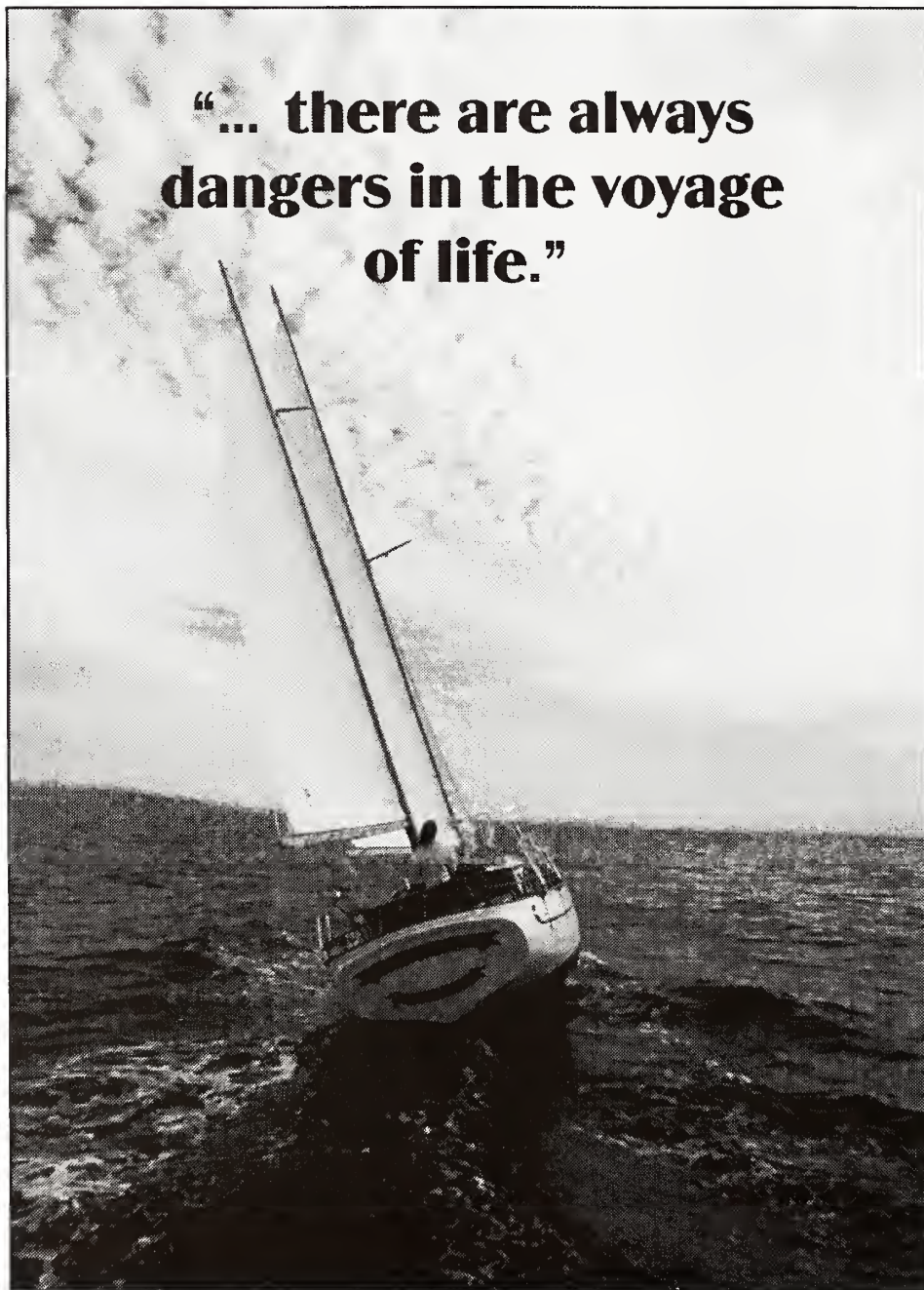
# The Foundation

## Of Our Faith

by W. Burkette Raper,  
President Emeritus of Mount Olive College

*(Message delivered to the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, Shady Grove Church, November 14, 2000. Submitted for publication at the request of the Conference)*

**"... there are always  
dangers in the voyage  
of life."**



It was here in the Cape Fear Conference that I began my life's work as an ordained Free Will Baptist minister at Oak Grove Church in November, 1946. At that time, I was a nineteen-year-old student at Duke University.

When your clerk, the Rev. Phillip Boykin, called to extend your invitation to me to "bring the message" to this One Hundred Forty-Sixth Session of the Conference, I asked if the Conference had a theme or special subject on which it was working. He replied that it did not. I then called one of the more active ministers of the Conference and asked if he knew of any major problems or issues confronting the Conference, and he said he was not aware of any. "The Conference is in good health," he added.

And so, I take it that I am on my own today — but not really. To use this opportunity as my own would be to abuse it. You have asked me to "bring a message," not my message, but a message from God. Fortunately, we do not serve a silent God, but one who is constantly speaking to us, if we have ears to hear and open minds to receive his message.

It is important that we not be like the crew and passengers on the Titanic — the largest and most luxurious liner in the world at the time it was launched in 1912. As her passengers were boarding for her maiden voyage from England to America, a woman from Liverpool asked a crewmember, "is this ship really unsinkable?" He is reported to have replied. "Lady, not even God himself could sink this ship."

Thus, on April 10, 1912, with some of the wealthiest and most famous people on both sides of the Atlantic on board, the Titanic departed from Southampton, England. Her destination was New York, a destination she would never



reach, and the reason — she did not take seriously the messages she received. On April 14, the Titanic received half-a-dozen telegraphic warnings about icebergs in the area in which she was steaming; but in the illusion that the ship was unsinkable, the crew fired up more boilers with the vision of reaching New York a day ahead of schedule.

After dinner that evening, some of the passengers went on deck to marvel at a glorious sunset. The night was clear and the sea was calm. At 9:30 the Titanic received a message which again warned of icebergs. In the second-class section some of the passengers were singing hymns, the final one being, "Now the Day Is Over." When he went to bed that evening, a passenger in the first-class section remembered that when he put his ear to the pillow, he thought he could hear the engines running faster than usual. Another passenger who noticed more vibrations in the ship, concluded, "We are evidently making very good time."



*Some dangers are  
visible, some invisible;  
some are open and some  
are subtle; and some are  
like an iceberg  
(nine-tenths under  
water).*

At 11:30 PM, the lookouts in the crow's nest noticed a slight haze ahead, and a few minutes later they realized the ship was headed directly into an iceberg. An urgent call went to the engine room to reverse the engines, but it was too late. The collision occurred at 11:40 PM. At first, many passengers refused to enter the lifeboats; after all, this ship was supposed to be unsinkable, the cabins were comfortable and it was freezing outside. But at 2:20 AM— less than three hours after scraping the iceberg — the Titanic went down, carrying with her two-thirds of her 2,223 passengers. More than 1,500 people perished in the icy waters.

I am not suggesting that the Cape Fear

Conference is in any way similar to the Titanic, but I am suggesting that there are always dangers in the voyage of life. Some dangers are visible, some invisible; some are open and some are subtle; and some are like an iceberg (nine-tenths under water). Jesus has a message for us about these dangers.

*"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine. and doeth them, I; will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock; And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." Matthew 7:24-27*

#### **Man's World and God's World**

In His Sermon on the Mount (Matthew: 5-7), Jesus has given us a contrast between man's world and God's world; and in the concluding parable, He illustrates this difference with a story of two builders. One built on the surface of life, but the other builder cut through the surface until he found a solid foundation.

Jesus, who grew up in the home of a carpenter, was using an illustration that his hearers would readily understand. The land where He lived and taught was largely made up of sand, rocks, and hills. The sand was unstable, especially on the side of a hill. Torrents of rain pouring down the hillside could wash away, not only the sand, but all that was built on it. Underneath the sand, however, was rock which could provide a firm foundation.

The problem was that one builder was in a hurry and did not want to put forth the effort to dig through the sand. The surface — the easy and the convenient — was good enough for him. With this parable, Jesus is teaching us that regardless of how attractive or expensive a house might be, when storms gather, the rain falls, the flood rises, and the wind blows, if our house is built on the sand it will fall and be washed away.

The message is that the building of a life is like the building of a house. Our day offers many cheap and shallow substitutes as the foundation upon which we can build our lives: the easy road, the path of least resistance; the path of pleasures, with no sexual restraints; the contemporary lifestyle of quick money with no discipline to save; and no commitment that will restrict our freedom to do what we want to do. But when the storms of life come — the breakup of a marriage, indebtedness over our heads, major health problems, loss of a job or the death of someone we love — we learn whether we have built our life on sand or on rock.

The mission of the Church is to help people know that although there are major storms which break upon all of us, there is a rock upon which we can build our lives — and that rock is faith in Jesus Christ.

"He [Jesus] saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jo'na: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16: 15-19

The rock to which Jesus makes reference is not Simon Peter as a person, but his faith in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. Our faith is what we believe, and in response to Jesus' question, "Whom do *you* say I am." Simon Peter was saying: "Jesus, I believe you are The Christ, The Anointed One whom God has sent to save us from our sins." This affirmation is the rock - the foundation - of the Christian faith.

#### **Spiritual Insight of Our Church Fathers**

As Original Free Will Baptists, the great challenge we have is to be sure that our faith rests not on the sand—the surface of life — but on the rock. Just as no building is better than its foundation, even so, no church is stronger than its faith —what it believes. The more I study the basic articles of faith upon



which the Free Will Baptist Church was founded, the more appreciation I have for the spiritual insight of our founding fathers. Due to time limitations today, I will mention only three of these insights.

*The Holy Scriptures: "We believe these are the Old and the New Testaments, that they were written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. We believe that they are a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian work and service," (Article 8, The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists).*

Note the perspective that the Bible is God's "revealed word to man." The human race did not discover God, but rather God "revealed" — made Himself known — to us. From Genesis to Revelation, the story of the Bible is how that revelation took place: to Adam, Abraham, Moses, the prophets and through Jesus Christ. I believe the Bible is exactly what our Articles of Faith say it is: "...a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian work and service."



*"Stay in the Word —  
that's where the  
power is."*

I believe the Bible as it is. It took God more than a thousand years to raise up the approximately forty people whom he used to write the books of the Bible. While I believe that God still speaks and reveals himself to those who believe in him, I do not think he needs me — or anyone else — to change or improve the Bible. We only need to understand it; but the Bible is not an easy book to understand. It is an inexhaustible revelation of an infinite God, and it must be studied and studied and studied.

Recently, I spent several days at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh. One morning as she cleaned my room, the black hospital housekeeper noticed my Bible on the nightstand near my bed and commented, "I see you read the Bible." I responded, "Yes, I find it a great source of strength." To which she replied, "Stay

in the Word — that's where the power is." In my lifetime, I have heard many sermons and lectures on the Bible, but none of them has stayed with me like the words of that humble lady who changed my bed and attended my room: "Stay in the Word - that's where the power is."

Yes, I believe the Bible — as it is and as our Articles of Faith interpret it — but I do not believe all the baggage some people want to attach to it. Let us be cautious of those who try to make the Bible say what they want it to say; and who insist that if we do not accept their view, we are not only heretics but lost. These people are not so much defending the Bible as they are propagandizing their own views.

Another spiritual insight of those who founded the Free Will Baptist Church is the doctrine of the "priesthood of believers." Although these exact words do not appear in our printed Articles of Faith, this doctrine is basic to our study of the Scriptures and form of worship and church government. This doctrine is rooted in the belief that there is only one Holy Spirit through whom believers experience a spiritual new birth. It is the belief that the same Holy Spirit who inspired the Bible is available to interpret the Bible to each believer who seeks His guidance.

The Free Will Baptist Church grew out of the Protestant Reformation of the fifteenth century, and we are indebted to Martin Luther for his emphasis that all believers are priests:

*"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" (1 Peter 2:9, New International Version).*

The founding fathers of Original Free Will Baptists understood and embraced this doctrine. They believed that we do not have to go through a church hierarchy or system of priests to experience the forgiveness of sins; we can go directly to God. They believed that every believer is a priest, and thereby called to teach and be a witness to the grace of God.

This belief in the "priesthood of believers" is the foundation for our democratic form of church government, which rests on the faith that God communicates with lay people in the same manner He communicates with ordained persons. Without this belief, churches would be governed by their pastors, rather than the membership. Among Original Free Will Baptists, however, every vote counts the same, whether it is a lay person or an ordained minister.



*Let us be cautious of those  
who try to make the Bible  
say what they want it to  
say; and who insist that if  
we do not accept their  
view, we are not only  
heretics but lost.*

The "priesthood of believers" is also the foundation for acts of lay leadership in services of worship. It is standard practice in a Free Will Baptist Church for a lay person to be called on "to lead us in prayer." If we did not believe that the laity have the same access to God, as do ordained persons, we would not ask them to perform the most sacred act in public worship — to be our spokesman to God.

A third major spiritual insight of our founding fathers was their belief in the "general atonement" and the "free will of man." The prevailing view of salvation when the first Free Will Baptist churches were established, beginning in 1727, was Calvinism, frequently referred to as predestination. John Calvin (1509-1564) taught that humankind was so depraved that there was nothing we could do to save ourselves, but that God, out of His mercy, had chosen some to be saved, and those chosen were known as the "elect." The atonement of Christ, he believed, was only for the elect.

The founders of the Free Will Baptist Church, however, believed that in the death of Christ, God provided a "general atonement" for all whom would accept it:



should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of the truth, that they might be saved" (The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government of Original Free Will Baptists, Article 9, General Provision).

Linked to the doctrine of "general provision" is the belief "that the human will is always active and may rebel or respond to the call of God in His redemptive offer," (Article 6). It was belief in the freedom of the human will to accept or reject God's provision for our salvation, and the belief that baptism is for believers only, that led to our name, "Free Will Baptists."

These basic doctrines, along with others, are the rock of our faith. To build the Free Will Baptist Church on this rock, our founding fathers had to dig through layers of accumulated sand. We must do the same, but this task will not be easy. There is an increasing amount of sand that has infiltrated our Church, especially through the independent mentality. Original Free Will Baptists have more than our share of persons who want the sanction of being ordained by a denomination and the recognition that comes with ordination, but who feel little or no loyalty to the historic faith of the church that ordains them. We see this mentality in persons who exploit established churches for their own self-serving purposes.



*There is an increasing amount of sand that has infiltrated our Church, especially through the independent mentality.*

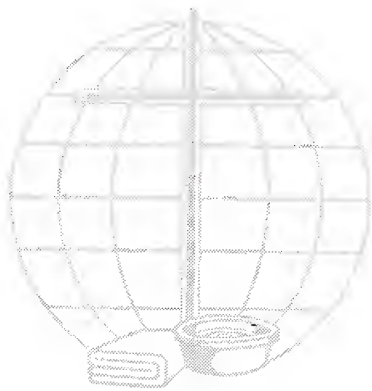
The message I bring to the Cape Fear Conference is that we take prompt and definite steps to teach our people the basic beliefs upon which our church was founded. I would encourage the Executive Committee to plan a series of conference-wide teaching sessions on the Biblical and spiritual foundations of our faith. Our objective must be to dig through the sand, to cut through the surface and get to the rock of what we believe.

The ministries of the Convention of

Original Free Will Baptists are ways whereby we put what we believe into action. If people, including our ministers, do not support these ministries, it may be because they do not know the faith on which our church was founded. If we are to transmit to future generations the legacy of faith we have received from our church fathers, we must teach both ministers and laity those spiritual insights that will enable them to distinguish between the sand and the rock in Christian doctrine.

Have you ever noticed cracks in a building or in a highway that is paved with cement? These cracks are largely due to settlement, and settlement is due to the building or highway not having a solid foundation. When we built College Hall at Mount Olive College, there were 509 piles, up to forty feet long, power driven through the sand until they reached rock. If it is important to cut through the sand in order to have a firm foundation for a building, how much more important it is that the faith of our church be established upon the rock of truth.

Original Free Will Baptists do not need to be like "...children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine..." Ephesians 4:140: If we want the Cape Fear Conference to stand another 146 years, we must build it on the Rock, and not on shallow substitutes which Jesus called sand. ❖



## Convention's General Administrator Undergoes Surgery

**O**n January 8, 2001, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, General Administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, underwent bypass surgery at Pitt Memorial Hospital, Greenville, NC. The operation was quite successful and Brother Hansley was able to return home on Friday, January 12, where he continues his recuperation.

Your prayers for his complete recovery are sincerely requested. ❖

### Churches & Ministers Available

NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)

**Piney Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church**, Albertson, NC, is seeking a pastor. Applicants may contact:

Judy Terry  
(252) 523-9501 or  
John Herring  
(252) 566-4282

**Mount Zion Original Free Will Baptist Church** in Pamlico County has an opening for a pastor. We are located two miles from Camp Vandemere. For further information, please contact:

Judy Thaenum  
(252) 745-3687 or  
(252) 745-3621  
or  
Keith Cowell  
(252) 745-3017

**Youth Minister Wanted:** Kenly Original Free Will Baptist Church is seeking a youth minister. Anyone interested in this position may contact:

Lois Kennedy  
462 Bunn Road  
Kenly, NC 27542  
(919) 284-4113 ❖



## February Is Sunday School Month

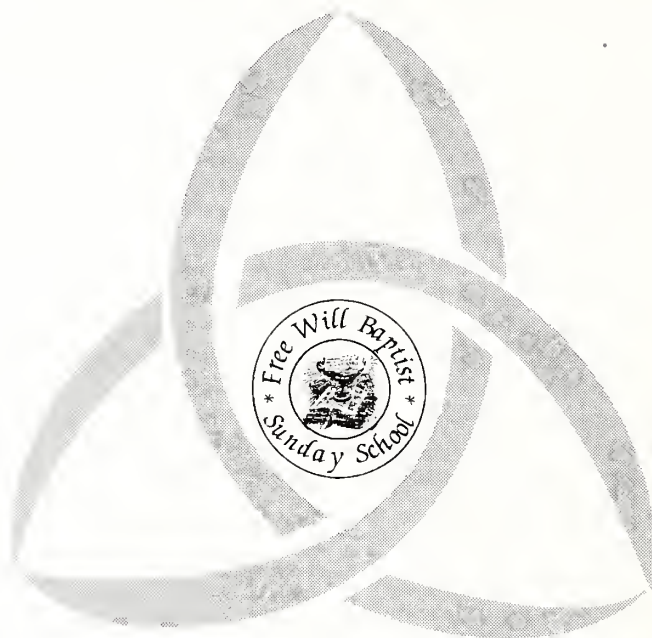
According to Lee J. Gable in *Christian Nurture Through the Church*, Christian nurture is the total effort of the church to help each person to dedicate himself to Christ and to develop the understandings, the attitudes and the skills that he needs in order to be Christian in his personal life and in his relations with others.

We accomplish this through balancing our emphasis on the study of the Scriptures, fellowship or building relationships and evangelism or the sharing of oneself and the church with others. There are many different approaches/methods that can be used by all organizations in the church to teach and make disciples. The methods are dynamic but the message remains stable.

The Sunday School Board is committed to assisting all Original Free Will Baptist churches in developing the knowledge and skills that will enable them to go, teach, and make disciples in each of our communities.

For further information concerning how the Sunday School Board can assist your church, come by the Headquarters or contact:

Mrs. Mary Dudley  
OFWB Sunday School Ministry  
PO Box 39  
Ayden, NC 28513-0039 ❖



## Sunday School Institute

March 3, 2001  
Mount Olive College,  
Mount Olive, NC

*Theme: Responding To God's Call By Being God's People Through Learning*

Workshops and activities for all ages. Registration fee to cover all materials and food: Ages 4-12, \$5.00 per person. Ages 13 and up, \$15.00 per person or a maximum cost of \$60.00 per church. Thirty-six opportunities for learning activities: time 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM.



Children: College Hall  
Adults: Murphy Center



# Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Day



Celebrate Sunday School Day Sunday,  
February 25, 2001, and send a special  
offering to the Sunday School Ministry.



For Sunday School information or assistance, contact:

Mary M. Dudley  
OFWB Sunday School Ministry  
PO Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513  
Telephone: (252) 746-4963



# Sunday School Charms



## The Birth of a Sunday School

by Mary Dudley,  
Director of the Sunday School Ministry

**T**he weekend of January 5 - 7, 2001, was an exciting one for the Sunday School Ministry. Living Faith Original Free Will Baptist Mission at Landis, NC in the Piedmont Conference, had set aside that time for the beginning of learning opportunities to prepare the interested volunteers for service to the community through Sunday School. Throughout the weekend, 15 - 20 excited people committed themselves to Christian education and began the process of learning what is necessary to build a solid Sunday School. Before the weekend was over, the people had participated in seven different, but related, workshops covering topics including The Importance of Sunday School, Governing the Sunday School, Duties and Responsibilities of Teachers and Officers, What Every Sunday School Teacher Should Know, Why Nobody Learns Much of Anything At Church: And How To Fix It, Effective Teaching Techniques, Stages of Faith, and Tips for Teachers of All Ages. It was exciting to be a part of our history as we were a part of the establishment of a new work. The church plant is a very attractive one with a main building consisting of a sanctuary and basement for classrooms. The other building houses a fellowship hall which will seat approximately 100 plus, a fully equipped kitchen and a basement with two offices, two classrooms and an auditorium that can be used for children's church and performances. The mission is going to begin its Sunday School on Sunday, March 4, 2001. There will be classes for people from birth through older adulthood. While the sanctuary and fellowship hall have nice furniture, the classrooms have no furniture and/or equipment for the Sunday School students. Therefore, The Sunday School Ministry and The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism are working together to equip the classrooms for study.



If a church or Sunday School class would like to adopt a particular Sunday School class and agree to furnish and / or provide equipment and materials, please contact Mrs. Mary Dudley at the Headquarters (252) 746-4963 as soon as possible and she will send you a copy of the approximate cost or kinds of equipment and/or materials needed to fully equip that class. Listed below you will find the various class divisions:

- |           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| • Nursery | Birth - 18 months   |
| • Toddler | 18 months - 3 years |

- |                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Preschool - Grade 1 | Ages 4-6                      |
| • Elementary          | Ages 7- 8<br>(Grades 2- 3)    |
| • Upper Elementary    | Ages 9 - 10<br>(Grades 4-5)   |
| • Middle School       | Ages 11 - 13<br>(Grades 6- 8) |
| • High School         | Ages 14- 18<br>(Grades 9- 12) |
| • Young Adults        | Ages 18 - 30                  |
| • Senior Adults       | Ages 30 and up                |

There are various needs for the church in general aside from those needed for the Sunday School. A brief list follows:

- 2 Heavy duty vacuum cleaners
- 10-12 Waste paper baskets
- Several adult size desks and chairs
- 12 Pencil Sharpeners (Wall mount or electric)

I encourage your participation in growing the Original Free Will Baptist denomination by helping this new mission and its pastor, The Rev. Wayne Watson and his associate, The Rev. Mark White as they minister to this group of young, excited people. Please commit yourself to support Living Faith Original Free Will Baptist Mission. ❖





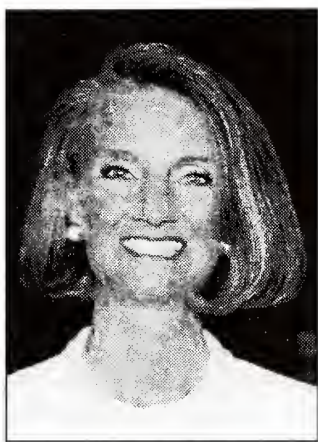
*Give  
Us  
Jesus!*

*You'll be inspired  
by God's Messenger & the Music at the*  
**MACEA Convention**

February 22-24, 2001

  
**Ridgecrest**  
A LifeWay Conference Center

Ridgecrest, North Carolina  
17 miles East of Asheville on old US70, off I-40, Exit 66



**Keynote Speaker**  
**Anne Graham Lotz**

Mrs. Lotz has a worldwide ministry with her speaking engagements. She is also an author of several books, the latest, *Just Give Me Jesus*.

**Music Leader**  
**John Leon Lewis**

Mr. Lewis serves as the dynamic music director at Calvary Church, Charlotte, NC. He has held ministry positions in Baltimore, MD.



**Convention Registration**

Pre-Reg.	Before 10/1/00	Before 12/1/00	Before 2/1/01	After 2/1/01
	26.00*	28.00*	30.00*	35.00*
*Deduct additional 5% for groups of 10 or more				
Students With current ID	13.00	14.00	15.00	18.00
Pastors 2 per church max			25.00	30.00

**Who Should Come?**

Sunday School Teachers  
Christian Ed. Directors  
Ministry Directors  
Administrative Leaders  
Pastors



**Plus!**

- Over 200 practical ministry workshops
- The largest Christian Resource Center in the Southeast



**Mid-Atlantic Christian Education Association**

Post Office Box 5433 • Concord, NC 28027-5433

**For Convention Info Call (800) 321-7495**

**For Lodging Call (800) 588-7222**





*Above: Pastor Aubrey Williamson (far right) and members of Saint Mary's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church spent a few days at Cragmont during the Christmas season.*

## 2001 Conference Schedule

### **Morning Star**

*April 20-22, 2001*

Teresa Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530  
252-524-4677

### **Minister's Conference**

*May 20-23, 2001*

Jessie Fulcher  
7541 Newton Grove Hwy.  
Dunn, NC 28334  
910-567-6419

### **June Woman's Auxiliary Conference**

*June 4-9, 2001*

Teresa Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530  
252-524-4677

### **Cragmont Youth Conference**

*June 11-16, 2001*

Bryant Hines  
PO Box 266  
Cove City, NC 28523  
252-633-2683

### **Christian Cadet Conference**

*June 18-23, 2001*

Gary Bailey  
112 Crosswinds Drive  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
919-735-3916

### **Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)**

*June 25-30, 2001*

Janie Sowers  
PO Box 824  
Middlesex, NC 27557  
252-235-2408

### **Youth Frontier Conference (AFC)**

*July 2-7, 2001*

Frankie Baggett  
5403 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Ayden, NC 28513  
252-746-7850

### **General Youth II Conference**

*July 9-14, 2001*

Chris Singleton  
PO Box 162  
Beulaville, NC 28518  
910-298-3520

### **General Youth I Conference**

*July 16-21, 2001*

Bryant Hines  
PO Box 266  
Cove City, NC 28523  
252-633-2683

### **Young People's Bible Conference**

*July 23-28, 2001*

James Gurganus  
1317 Nine Foot Road  
Newport, NC 28570  
252-223-5251

### **August Woman's Auxiliary Conference**

*July 30-August 4, 2001*

Teresa Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530  
252-524-4677



## Mandaue Church Celebrates Third Anniversary

by Z. I. Perocillo

**M**andaue City Free Will Baptist Church work is one of the earliest we have begun in the Visayas. However, it took us so much time to baptize a few converts. There are many factors affecting this: the Roman Catholic community is very fanatical in their doctrine; two of our earliest workers lack commitment and dedication to the work; they lack experience in pioneering work; they don't command respect in the community. So I terminated two of the workers from working with us. I have one who did not enroll in a formal Bible School, but he is a hard worker and daring enough to evangelize the community almost everyday. He is a prayerful man.

I told him to disciple his people in order that they can help him in the ministry. As a result, 49 adults became members of the church and many sympathizers are coming to church. He learned how to make proper referral for people who are involved in criminal cases as well as those who need help in times of sickness.



*Above: Mandaue City Free Will Baptist Congregation.*

In problems related to church administration, they always feel free for consultation and listened to advice, and suggestions.

Without notice I visited different churches, especially during services on Sunday and found that their perfor-

mance is satisfactory as well as their church attendance.

This church anniversary celebration is one celebration with a very satisfactory attendance, not because it was a party, but generally they are regular attenders of the said fellowship. ❖

## Information Concerning Articles for Publication

The editorial staff of the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some suggestions for making the process easier.

1. Type all copy, (please, no handwritten). Use 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper.
2. Keep a copy of material (include your phone number so the staff may call if there are questions about your copy).
3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches from the top of the page. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page, and for the convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on only one side of the paper. Please do not type in all caps.
4. Leave a margin of at least one inch on both sides of the paper.
5. Write no more than one article to a page.

6. Clip pages together, using a paper clip. Do not staple pages.
7. Read, reread, and correct your own copy.
8. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation.
9. Prepare your articles and report as far in advance as possible. Articles for publication should be in the hands of the editor by the tenth of the month proceeding the date of publication. (Example: Items for the September issue must be in by the tenth of August, etc.)
10. **Photos will not be returned** unless requested and only when returned postage is provided.
11. Feature articles should be limited to no more than six double-spaced, typed pages.
12. Registration forms will be printed in no more than two issues, and only one unless requested to do so.
13. Full-page announcements will be

printed in only two issues. If more than two printings are necessary, it will be reduced to one or two columns.

14. Please do not send camera-ready articles. It is better if we set material in our own style, etc.

15. Please remember that the editor makes the final decision as to whether an article should be published or not. Articles and items that are not dated, may be printed in a later issue.

16. Send articles to: The Editor, The Free Will Baptist Press, PO Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513-0159.

We express our appreciation to the churches and individuals who provide us with the news items and articles for publication. You are helping us to record a history of our denomination. Please keep up the good work. We will do our part to serve you through the pages of *The Free Will Baptist*.



# Foreign Missions Annual Telethon

Sunday, March 25, 2001

Dial (252) 746-4963 between 1:30 & 5:30 PM

**Theme: "Love Has a Price Tag."**

Dear Lord, Help us reach the Philippines, Mexico, Nepal, India, Bulgaria and the nations of the earth. The Telethon and Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions gives us the opportunity to remember the nations of the earth through prayer and giving.

**Goal 2001: \$190,000**

A total of \$190,000 in gifts on Telethon Sunday. This goal can easily be reached, if we ask the Lord to help us love the peoples of the earth as He loved and give of ourselves and our means to reach them. Pray daily for this goal. Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30 PM. God hears our prayer and sees our giving and blesses us openly.

*Theme Verse: "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

*John 3:16*

## Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions March 25, 2001

**Prayer Goal March 25:** All Churches joining together in united prayer during the Morning Worship Hour in one accord for revival. Let us pray!

*Prayer for others is a true expression of love that refreshes our souls!*



Board of Foreign Missions, OFWB International  
Post Office Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513 • (252) 746-4963



# ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

*Sunday, February 18, 2001*

College Hall, Mount Olive College

5:00— 8:00 PM

*Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions  
of OFWB International*

Speaker: Dr. William Bennett

**Schedule:**

First Session — 5:00 PM

Light Meal — 6:00 PM

Final Session — 7:00 PM

**D**r. William Bennett has spoken many times at Free Will Baptist gatherings and always has a timely and spiritually deep message that challenges and inspires those who attend. Dr. Bennett has been a very successful pastor. He pastored many Southern Baptist Churches, but his most notable pastorate was the First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas, that grew from 800 to 8,000 under his leadership. He is currently Chaplain at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and professor of Preaching at the Seminary. Dr. Bennett has traveled and spoke about missions around the world.

We encourage churches throughout the denomination to call off your Evening Worship Service on February 18 and attend the Missions Confer-



ence. This will be an exciting time of fellowship, worship and music. Plan now to attend.

## **Important Notice - Response needed**

A light meal will be served, at no charge, but in order to prepare the proper amount of food we need to know how many will be attending from each church. Please call our office (252) 746-4963 by February 12, and give the church name and the number that will be attending. (If no one is in the office, please leave the information on the answering machine.)



*Board of Foreign Missions of OFWB International  
Post Office Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513 • (252) 746-4963*



# Campus Visits...

*Below: The AFC Youth Group of Trinity Church of Pantego delivered donations on December 28, collected by each member. They were given a tour of Heritage Hall and Smith cottage.*



*Below: Members of St. Delight's Church of New Bern, brought donations on November 11 and toured Smith Cottage.*



*Above: The Women's Auxiliary of New Sandy Hill Church of Bailey made sure our residents were given a taste of Christmas early by supplying each with gifts and refreshments on December 2.*

*Center Right: (L to R) Alice Dunn, Stacie Hunt with Turner, and Leigh Ann Padgett of Silver Creek Church Swansboro, visited November 10. They toured Rodgers Cottage and also brought donations.*



*Right: (L to R) Grace Sawyer and Margie Cook of Sidney Church of Belhaven stopped by to leave donations their church members had collected.*



*Above: (L to R) Rev. Frank Grubbs and Mr. Odell Walker delivered items collected from the members of Selma Church.*



A special Thanks to everyone that helped us meet our needs in the year 2000. We would especially like to thank every individual that furnished Christmas gifts for our children. It is our prayer that each of you will be richly blessed for your generosity. —*The Staff of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home*

*Below: On November 15, members of the Women's Auxiliary of Deep Run Church delivered donations.*



*Left: On December 14, Evelyn and Melvin Evans of Black Jack Church of Greenville, visited and brought donations.*



*Above Left: (L to R) On December 14, Pastor Eddie Franks, Associate Pastor Doug Sanders, and Church Clerk Doug Jetter of Wildwood Church, Garner, presented a check in the amount of \$435.00 to Ms. Monica O'Quinn, Administrative Assistant to Director of Children's Services.*

*Above: On December 20, Ms. Marlene Hunter, Manager and Ms. Barbara Prince, Personnel Manager of the Wal-Mart Store of Knightdale, presented Dr. Bobby Taylor a check in the amount of \$2,395.00. The Children's Home was chosen as the Charity Appeal winner for the Knightdale location. A percentage of all sales, between 7 am and 11 pm on December 2, was donated. Wal-Mart customers also supplied Christmas gifts to our children through the Wal-Mart provided angel tree.*



*Above: Mr. Don Batchelor, Director of Physical Affairs, prepares flagpole with light for our annual campus Christmas tree.*

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Products                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Gym Bags   | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Wooden Glider Swings                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Care Items            | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Pencil Sharpeners   | <input type="checkbox"/> Charter Bus to Zoo (approx. \$1500.00)                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encyclopedias (CD Rom)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tall Table Lamp  | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Games (Bible Bingo, Girl Talk, Operation, Battleship) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet Cleaning Machine        | <input type="checkbox"/> Desk Lamps   | <input type="checkbox"/> Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Cart                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Large Electric Griddles  | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry Supplies  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Large Electric Fry Pans  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning Supplies   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upright Vacuum Cleaners        | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pole Lamps  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher Detergent           | <input type="checkbox"/> Playstation Games (Jeopardy, Winnie The Pooh, Crash Bandicoot "CTR", Ms Pac Man) | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 ring binders (1"-1 1/2") ❖                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Various Types Cleaning Brushes |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hot Flat Irons for Hair        |   |  |



## MOC Graduates 270

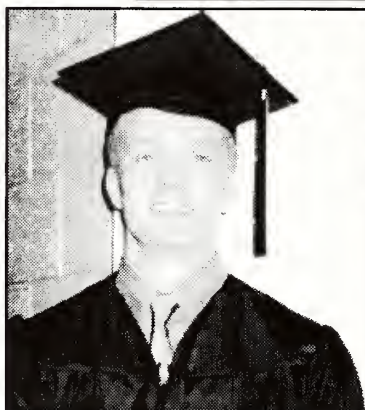
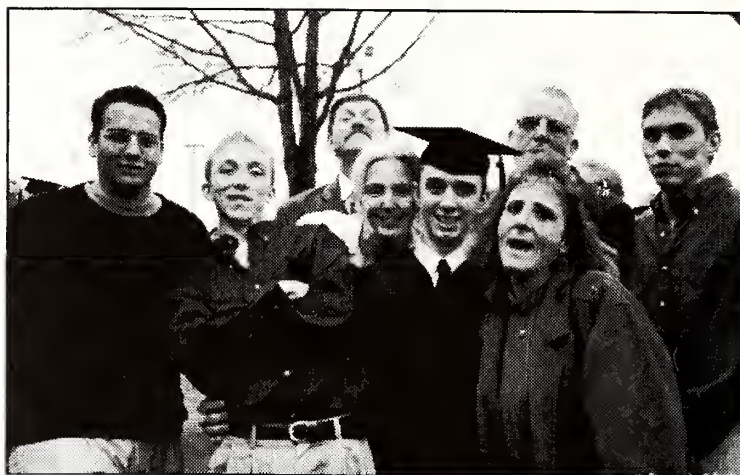
Approximately 270 students were graduated at Mount Olive College's Forty-Seventh Commencement. The fall 2000 graduating class was comprised of 35 students from Mount Olive's traditional program, 42 from the Mount Olive evening program, 45 from the Goldsboro location at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, 46 from the New Bern programs, and 50 from Mount Olive College at Wilmington.

Billy Ray Hall, North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center president offered words of wisdom and encouragement to the millennium grads. Hall told the candidates about the limitless benefits of finding employment in rural North Carolina and urged them to consider rural eastern North Carolina as a prime location to begin their career search.

Following the conferment of degrees, Dr. J. William Byrd, president of the College, challenged the class of 2000 to continue striving to improve themselves and the world around them.

"Each of you who has received a degree today has reached a milestone in the chart of your achievement. You are jubilant in celebrating your accomplishment and justifiably feel that you have reached a plateau in your life. But realize clearly that it is a plateau and not the top of the mountain. Pause and enjoy the view, but prepare yourself to push forward to the next level," Byrd stated. "If you and Mount Olive College have done your work well, you are prepared for the climb. You have the knowledge base on which to stand, you have acquired fundamentals that will allow you to be perceptive and creative in your pursuits, and you have surrounded yourself with a strong value system that has equipped you to follow the high road," he continued.

*Top: Josh Kriger, with family and friends. He is a member of Riverside Church in Johnston County. Center Left: Cliff Greenup from Pleasant Grove, in Wayne County earned a degree in criminal justice. Center Right: Matthew Pope with parent's Dale and Danny. They are members of St. Mary's in Wilson County.*



*Above: L to R Dr. J. William Byrd, president; the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister; the Rev. Earl Glenn, guest speaker at commencement worship service; Dr. Opey Jeanes, vice president for special services; and Dr. Tyanna Day, religion professor.*

Byrd concluded by wishing the graduates well in their endeavors. "Be constant in purpose, seek God's guidance, and strive to leave the world in better condition than you found it," he said.

Many graduates enjoyed earlier remarks during a special worship service held in Rodgers Chapel. The Rev. Earl Glenn, former member of the Mount Olive College Board of Directors and current pastor of Daniels Chapel

Church in Wilson, was the speaker. Glenn encouraged those in attendance to be ambitious for the right things in life.

"The danger is not that we will be ambitious, but that we will not be ambitious for the right things. We could use a healthy dose of ambition - an ambition like Jesus, for the Kingdom of God, to set the world straight, for peace and justice for all of God's children," Glenn noted. ♦

## College Celebrates Most Successful Church Dinner Program to Date

According to Jean Ackiss, director of Church Support at Mount Olive College Free Will Baptist Church members gave \$453,417\* to the College this year during the annual Church Dinner Program. This figure represents \$40,732\* more than the \$412,484 raised in 1999.

In its thirty-seventh year of operation, the Church Dinner Program is the longest standing and largest annual gift support program at Mount Olive College. Eighteen dinners makeup the campaign held every fall for the Free Will Baptist churches in 28 counties, located east of Raleigh. This year 11 of the county dinners exceeded their goals. Any amount over the goal is being directed to the College's debt retirement.

Seven church dinners deserve special recognition for their tremendous efforts this year. Greene and Pitt Counties both gave \$6,000 more than last year;

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties raised nearly \$5,000 more than in 1999; Wayne went \$3,059 over last year's total; and Wilson County surpassed last year's giving by \$9,436. These seven counties were among the hardest hit during the flood of 1999.

"I am deeply moved by the overwhelming support given to the College by the Free Will Baptist Church. These people love and believe in the mission of Mount Olive College in its quest for Christian higher education," Mrs. Ackiss said.

Mrs. Ackiss specifically commended the county dinner chairs for all their hard work and dedication during the planning stages of the campaign. Many of the county chairs have direct ties to the College and openly shared their experiences with others. Six chairpersons are parents of students, 11 are alumni,

and 3 are board of trustee members.

"The annual Church Dinner Campaign is a challenging and rewarding experience. It takes the efforts of everyone involved to make this event a success. It is easy to think only about how much money we need to raise, however, I constantly remind myself and our volunteers that the purpose for which we raise the money is our focus, not the amount. We need to stay focused on our purpose for this campaign - helping people develop their lives - and we do it through Christian higher education. God is good to allow us to have a part in the lives of His children. I am very grateful for all of our volunteers and the many people who share in this ministry through their prayers and gifts," Mrs. Ackiss concluded.

\*As of December 6, 2000



### Mount Olive College 2000 Free Will Baptist Church Dinner Program

County	1999 Bridge Builders	1999 Gifts	2000 Bridge Builders	2000 Gifts	Amount Over/ Under	County Chairman
Beaufort	63	\$13,996	59	\$ 15,251	\$1,255	Billy Gurkin
Carteret	79	\$15,606	78	\$ 16,205	\$599	Sheri S. Noonan
Craven	80	\$21,710	77	\$ 21,355	-\$355	Edgar Pake, Jr.
Duplin	70	\$17,440	64	\$ 17,275	-\$165	Roy Wetherington
Edgecombe	26	\$3,745	53	\$ 9,004	\$5,259	Tommy Benson
Greene	119	\$26,528	154	\$ 32,625	\$6,097	Ray Williamson
Johnston-Wake	217	\$50,612	221	\$ 54,411	\$3,799	Randy Beaman
Jones	24	\$6,020	30	\$ 6,330	\$310	Genevieve M. Taylor
Lenoir	112	\$20,902	131	\$ 22,953	\$2,051	Keenan Hinnant
Nash	47	\$12,050	47	\$ 10,326	-\$1,724	Teresa A. Speer
Onslow-Brunswick	21	\$3,640	17	\$ 2,887	-\$753	Gene Burkett
Pamlico	52	\$10,250	39	\$ 9,025	-\$1,225	Jeff Daughtry
Pee Dee Association	78	\$12,788	77	\$ 13,916	\$1,128	John R. Manning
Pitt	141	\$29,452	163	\$ 35,555	\$6,103	Ronnie Parker
Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland	195	\$42,795	205	\$ 47,779	\$4,984	Judy Thaanum
Washington, Martin, Tyrrell and Pasquotank	63	\$18,958	65	\$ 21,604	\$2,646	Danny McPherson
Wayne	227	\$63,620	245	\$ 66,679	\$3,059	Jane T. Tripp
Wilson	210	\$42,573	240	\$ 52,059	\$9,486	Lee Morton Jernigan
<b>Total</b>	<b>1824</b>	<b>\$412,685</b>	<b>1965</b>	<b>\$455,239</b>	<b>\$42,554</b>	David Cahoon
						Joyce Edmundson
						Richard Holmes



## Jean F. Ackiss Honored for 35 Years of Service to College

**J**ean F. Ackiss was honored in November for having served 35 years at Mount Olive College. Mrs. Ackiss joined Mount Olive College in September of 1965 at the age of 23, five years after graduating from the institution with a one-year business certificate. The Vanceboro native was the first in her family of six siblings to attend college.

"As I look back now, I can see that Mount Olive College was the beginning of a big change for me...a lifetime of learning and growing."

Mrs. Ackiss came to work at Mount Olive College as secretary to the President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper. She worked in that capacity for over 20 years.

"From the moment Dr. Raper offered me the job, I felt that this was a calling for my life. I had always wanted to be in some sort of full-time Christian service and I believe that this was God's plan for me."

In 1968, Mrs. Ackiss became the assistant secretary for the Board of Trustees and has worked closely with the Board ever since. In 1987 the Board recognized her faithful service by sending her on an all expense paid trip to the Holy Land, a lifelong dream of hers.

In 1978, Mrs. Ackiss began coordinating the College's Annual Church Dinner Program in addition to her responsibilities as secretary to the president. She assumed her current position as Director of Church Support in 1985 and remained the coordinator of the College's Annual Church Dinner Program.



The Church Dinner Program is the longest standing and largest annual gift support program at the College. The Annual Fund Campaign is held every year in October and November for the Free Will Baptist Churches in 28 counties. In its thirty-seventh year of operation, the church dinner program has just completed its most successful year to date, receiving over \$453,000 in gifts for the College.

"The dinner program is an opportunity for Free Will Baptists to support the College through their annual gifts. It is not just a fund-raising program. It is also a time when the church can interact with the College, when both the College and the Church can grow, learn from each other, and help each other become stronger in service to God. We are constantly aware of the importance of our relationship with the Free Will Baptist Church.

We are here to serve the Church in Christian higher education," she commented.

"Free Will Baptists have shown overwhelming support for the College, especially this year when we have just gone through a very difficult period. It is my opinion that Free Will Baptist have spoken clearly to us that they want Mount Olive College, they want it to be Christian and fulfill the mission for which it was established," she continued.

Ackiss has been a member of the Free Will Baptist denomination for nearly 50 years. It is her long-standing faith in God, her commitment to higher education, and her belief in the institution's mission that keep

her focused on the good work of Mount Olive College.

Mount Olive College is a good work. It is realistic and very demanding, but it is not our work. It is God's work. We are simply stewards to whom God has entrusted this work. None of us are important on our own. It is when we have a vision of what God's plan is and how we fit in that plan that we can then do something worthwhile."

In addition to her work at Mount Olive College, Ackiss is an active member of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro. She teaches an adult Sunday school class, sings in the choir and is president of the woman's auxiliary. She is also field secretary of the State Woman's Auxiliary for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. She and her husband Bobby have been married for 25 years. ♦



## Free Will Baptist Student Hired as Assistant Resident Director

Carrie Brown, a senior at Mount Olive College, had never really thought about attending Mount Olive College until her last year in high school. Her original plans were to attend East Carolina University, but after one visit, decided she would be more comfortable in a small campus atmosphere.

Carrie's parents suggested she look into attending Mount Olive College, after all it is where they had attended and first met. Upon Carrie's first visit, she fell in love with the institution...its small classes, friendly faces, and beautiful campus. She immediately began making plans to attend.

"Even though my parents suggested that I visit Mount Olive College, they didn't want me to make the decision just based on their experience. The decision was entirely mine, but naturally my parents and my grandparents were excited."

At the end of Carrie's freshman year, she decided to apply for a resident advisor's (RA) position for the following year. Resident advisors are responsible for providing resident students with peer counseling, and enforcing College policies, rules, and regulations. Each of the residence halls' five RAs rotate duty nights. On these nights, the RAs are required to be in the halls and accessible to the students. They are selected by a student life committee after applying for the position and undergoing an interview process.

"I had a really good relationship with my RAs and felt being an RA would be a good way to get to know more students and have a voice on campus," Carrie said. This is Carrie's senior year and third year as an RA, the resident director's (RD) position in the women's residence halls became available. It was decided, based on Carrie's experience and performance as an RA, that she would be hired as an assistant RD for the remainder of the academic year. The announcement was a true honor since



*Above: Carrie Brown, a senior at MOC from Rock Springs Church in Nash County, is the assistant resident director for the women's residence halls.*

the position is usually filled by a full-time employee.

In her new position, Carrie oversees all the RAs in the women's residence halls, establishes a duty schedule for the RAs, assists with the administrative operation of the women's residence halls, and serves as a liaison between residents and the student development staff.

An English major, Carrie plans to teach at the high school level and is now observing classes at her alma mater, Southern Nash Senior High School.

Carrie is the daughter of Charles "Charlie" and Sandra Brown. Her grandparents are Oscar "Junior" and Elizabeth Whitley of Rock Springs Church and Kenneth and Joyce Brown of First Church in Smithfield. Carrie, a member of Rock Springs Church in Nash County, plans to graduate in May and is considering applying for the RD position for the next academic year. She is also involved in the Honors program and is the president of Sigma Tau Delta, an international English honor society. ❖

Soft rain wet flat rural North Carolina as 267 lives turned alumni/ae—their diploma a ticket out or back to rural roots: choice the bait to catch the conscience of a graduate.

Speaker Billy Ray Hall sang praise of rural roots,

place of 3.9 million souls,  
85 counties, 430 towns,  
3,800 square miles of rivers and lakes,  
4.7 million acres of wetland,  
320 miles of coastline,  
200 mountain peaks over 5,000 feet.

Rural North Carolina boasts  
40,000 small farms,  
10,000 corporate farmers,  
18.6 billion farm products,  
270 million goods and services in a year.

Rural North Carolina claims  
not a city over 50,000,  
not a stretch of traffic gridlock,  
not a two-hour wait for meals,  
not a pond where no one can fish,  
not a land without values.

Rural North Carolina shifts  
from tobacco to cotton,  
from tobacco to peppers,  
from tobacco to sweet potatoes  
as if tobacco once King  
now abdicates and shrinks:  
culture but a window into the future.

Where will the life go  
with diploma in hand,  
the internet at large,  
the urban a choice as if the land of  
opportunity leads from the highway  
of rural North Carolina to the city, the  
plenty, the power.

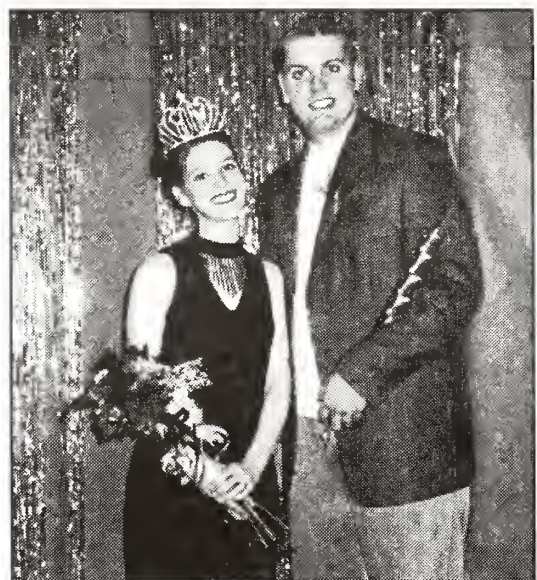
Rural North Carolina sits silently in  
history awaiting the chime of time to  
remind the life that worlds come and go  
but the rural land remains

like faith,  
like family,  
like freedom.

...Dr. Pepper Worthington  
Professor of English since 1979



## "Old Friends and Good Times" ...Alumni Weekend 2000



**M**OC Alumni Weekend 2000 was a huge success! The weekend's events included golf, reunions from the classes of 1955 through 2000, the Pickle Classic Basketball Tournament, the crowning of the Pickle Classic King and Queen, Alumni of the Year presentations, the establishment of a new endowment, musical presentations and art exhibits by current students, and lots of fellowship. It was a perfect time to get together again with old friends and relive the good times that played such a significant role in shaping our lives. ♦



# Spread the Good News: College's Nontraditional Programs Work for Working Adults

**S**ix weeks after graduating from Mount Olive College, Rachael Smith a 1998 Mount Olive College graduate landed a great job working for a fortune 500 company in charge of recruiting, training, research, hiring, and placement for major corporate clients. "I am proud to say my degree and background in management have given me this opportunity. I have doubled my income and I have full benefits. Please pass this message on to others—follow your educational goals to better yourself and your family. Education is the key," comments Smith, Recruitment Supervisor with Kelly Services.

Smith is just one of hundreds of success stories throughout Mount Olive College's nontraditional education programs. The nontraditional programs are an innovative approach to education that gives working adults the opportunity to complete their degree while continuing their employment. Students enter as a class (called a cohort), meet four hours once a week for a specified number of weeks, and complete a sequence of courses which provide the academic major toward a bachelor's degree in either Criminal Justice, Management and Organizational Development, or Church Ministries. The time-condensed format of the nontraditional programs is allowing students to finish what they started.

Prior to entering one of the three nontraditional programs, students must interview with a program representative and assessment counselor, provide a satisfactory writing sample, and have completed a specified number of college level credits. Depending on training and experience, some college credits may be earned through the student's portfolio.

According to current student Patrick Hayes, "Mount Olive College's evening program accommodated my work schedule, is affordable, and has helped me to better understand the administration and protocols of my agency. It has

also opened doors to more training and future promotions within the DMV." Hayes plans to graduate from Mount Olive College in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

Yes, Mount Olive College is making the difference in students' lives throughout North Carolina. With locations in Mount Olive, New Bern, Wilmington and the Research Triangle Park, Mount Olive College has made earning a college degree more convenient than ever.

"I knew that a degree would improve my chances and open doors that seemed barricaded. I never imagined things would happen so fast. While I was still in the Mount Olive College Management and Organizational Development program, I applied for a local manager's position in my company. The person who interviewed me stated that the most impressive thing about my resume was that I was in college trying to complete my degree. I was asked to take the position on a trial basis; then two weeks

later, I was promoted to my current position of customer engineering manager. Two promotions in less than a year! I have already recommended this program to many people and will continue to do so. I think all education should look at how Mount Olive College's nontraditional programs work and model after them. It is much better than traditional seat time in the classroom," stated Greg Bates, a 1999 Mount Olive College graduate and customer engineering manager with Verizon South, Inc.

You too can spread the good news about Mount Olive College. If you are a Mount Olive College graduate, share your accomplishments with your neighbors, friends, and co-workers—help someone else find success through Mount Olive College. Below is a list of nontraditional program start dates. Feel free to clip these dates and share them with a friend or co-worker. If you or they would like more information, please call the location nearest you. ❖

## Nontraditional Program Start Dates

### **Mount Olive College at the Research Triangle Park - 1-888-258-5188**

Management and Organizational Development: January 9, February 19, March 29, May 16, June 25

Criminal Justice for Professionals: January 22, March 5, June 14

### **Mount Olive College at New Bern - 1-800-868-8479**

Management and Organizational Development: January 24, March 8, May 15

Criminal Justice for Professionals: February 22

### **Mount Olive College at Wilmington - 1-800-300-7478**

Management and Organizational Development: January 18, February 28, April 30, June 12

Criminal Justice for Professionals: TBA

### **Mount Olive College at Mount Olive - 1-800-653-0854**

Management and Organizational Development: February 7, June 12

Criminal Justice for Professionals: April 11 (meets on Saturdays beginning April 21)



## Mount Olive College Group Tours London, England

**R**ed phone booths, double-decker tour busses, traveling on the tube, and visiting historic buildings, were all a part of the educational experience of 13 Mount Olive College Honors students when they traveled to London, England, November 1 - 6. Nancy Costa, coordinator of the honors program at Mount Olive College, and three couples from the community also enjoyed the European vacation.

The group visited many of the major tourist attractions including: Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, Saint Paul's Cathedral, Globe Theater, William Shakespeare's Birthplace, Windsor Castle, Oxford University, Saint Martin's in the Field, The Tate, and the Tower of London. They also enjoyed a reenactment of the lives of King Henry VII and Elizabeth I over a five-course dinner at The Hatfield House. Two trips were made to the theater during the visit: one to William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and the other to a choice of *Art*, *The King and I*, *Les Miserables*, and *Starlight Express*.

"It was really an eye-opening experience for me," Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro said. "I enjoyed visiting the Cathedrals the best because it gave me more of an insight on the history of the church in England and why

our nation's forefathers came to America."

Pictured above are the students at the Hatfield House with "Sir Walter Raleigh." (front row, left to right): Michelle Overman of Goldsboro; Carrie Brown of Rock Springs Church in Nash County; Candice Phillips of Stoney Creek Church in Wayne County; Angie Bell of Albemarle; Melissa Denton of Spring Hope; and Nikki McLawhon of Mount Olive. (second row): Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro in Wayne County; Julie Freeman of New Bern; "Sir



Walter Raleigh;" JaNae Joyner of Mount Olive; Rodney Dawson of Seven Springs; and Melissa Inscoe of First Church in Wilson. (back row): Brad Piner of Juniper Chapel Church in Craven County and Jon Puckett of Virginia Beach, VA. Also attending the trip were Dr. and Mrs. David Hines of Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Rollins of First Church in Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Bailey of First Church in Goldsboro; and professor Nancy Costa. ❖

## Students Visit Children's Home

**M**embers of Mount Olive College's Student Theological Fellowship, Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship, Fellowship of Christian Students, and the Student Government Association recently visited the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex. Along with taking needed items to the Children's Home, the students also shared a short devotional service and time of fellowship with the girls. Pictured here are: Shannon Mixon of First Church in Wilson; Sharon Zirkle of Woodbridge, VA; Charles Waters of New Bethlehem Church in Pamlico County; and Hollis Phelps of Columbia, SC. ❖







## Marsh Swamp Visits College

A group from Marsh Swamp Church near Sims recently came to Mount Olive College. They ate lunch, visited with Dr. Byrd, and spoke with Gary Barefoot, curator of the Historical Collection. Mount Olive College welcomes church groups who would like to visit and learn more about the College and its mission. Interested groups should contact Jean Ackiss, director of church support. ♦

## M O C U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

**Church Night** – will be on Saturday, February 3, 2001 in College Hall. The College's men's and women's basketball teams are scheduled to face Erskine College with the games beginning at 5:30 PM. For more information, contact Brad Massey, admissions counselor, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3095.

**Mount Olive College at Mount Olive** – will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Wednesday, February 7, 2001. For more information, contact Ray Smith, assistant director of evening college admissions, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3012 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**The World Missions Conference** – will be Sunday, February 18, 2001, at 5:00 PM in College Hall at Mount Olive College. Admission is free but reservations should be made with the foreign missions office. For more information or to make reservations, contact Harold Jones, director of foreign missions for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, at (252) 746-4963.

**Campus Visitation Day** – will be held on Monday, February 19, 2001, at Mount

Olive College. Registration will be held in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center at 9:30 AM. For more information, contact Tim Woodard, director of admissions, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3010.

**Mount Olive College at the Research Triangle Park** – will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Monday, February 19, 2001, and a Criminal Justice for Professionals accelerated program on Wednesday, March 7, 2001. For more information about the MOD program, contact Carmela Cohen, program representative, at 1-888-258-5188 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu). For more information about the CIP program, contact Mike Stephens, program representative, at 1-888-258-5188, or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**Mount Olive College at New Bern** – will begin a Criminal Justice for Professionals accelerated program on Thursday, February 22, 2001, and a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Tuesday, March 8, 2001. For more information about the MOD program, contact Beth Bowes, program representative, at

1-800-868-8479 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**Mount Olive College at Wilmington** – will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Wednesday, February 28, 2001. For more information, contact Roy Campbell, director of Mount Olive College at Wilmington, at 1-800-300-7478, or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**The Sunday School Institute** – will be on Saturday, March 3, 2001, at Mount Olive College and is scheduled to begin at 8:30 AM. For more information, contact Mary Dudley, director of Sunday school ministries for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, at (252) 746-4963.

**The Lorelle F. Martin Lecture** – will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2001, at 7:30 PM in Rodgers Chapel. The public is invited to attend and admission is free. For more information, contact Richard Bounds, chair of the department of science and mathematics, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3024.



"Send out thy light and  
truth..." Psalm 43:3

## Camp Vandemere Our Family Enrichment Center

by The Rev. Owen Arthur

## THOUGHTS FOR LIVING

by Dr. Thomas M. Parrish

I rode down to the camp one afternoon during the holidays. It was a beautiful day. The weather was cool but not cold; it was very pleasant with just a light coat on. As I walked around the campus and talked with Mike Williams, I thought to myself how nice it would be if the camp were used more during this time of year. The weather normally isn't too bad and you don't have the mosquitoes to contend with. We have heat in all the buildings and it would be a good time for a church, Sunday school class, or a youth group to have a winter retreat. Oftentimes when we think about Camp Vandemere, we just think about it being a summer and early fall camp. We would like to see the camp utilized all year long.

Recently, the Adult Sunday School class from Juniper Chapel Church, near Vanceboro, had their Christmas party at the camp. Mike and Lynda had the kitchen decorated and they served a delicious seafood supper. They had a wonderful time and didn't have to rush away due to a certain closing time. We have the facilities and we invite you to use them. For the fisherman, we have overnight accommodations in our family lodge, as well as the dorms, and we can offer meals if your group is large enough. Don't forget that there is a shooting preserve that is just a couple of miles from the camp for those who like to keep their shooting eyes keen.

The Board of Directors would like to thank you for your prayers and financial support. Your prayers help the board to be spiritually strong as well as follow the guidance of the Lord. Your financial support helps us so we can continue to operate the camp as well as plan for future growth. The camp has expenses during the winter just as in the summer, although they are not as much.

Not much is going on at the camp at the present time. Mike is working on projects that he is unable to do when we have guests at the camp. He has painted the snack building, painted the floor in the dining area, and is planning several other projects that will enable the camp to be ready for you when you come again. It's not too early for you to call and schedule your trip to the camp. Now would be a good time for you to invite Mike to come to your church and tell you about the camp: you can reach him at (252) 745-3171.

The Board would like to say congratulations to Mike for passing his ordination exam. This required a lot of work as well as sacrifice by his family. Many do not realize the hours of study and preparation that go into a young man's entering the ministry. Again the Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere extends their congratulations to Mike for his accomplishments.

If all goes as planned, by the time you read this article, construction should be under way on the new in-ground swimming pool. This pool will be something that will continue to serve the camp for many years. Those who attended the camp years ago remember swimming in the river and being stung by the jellyfish. This new pool will allow all to swim without the fear of jellyfish and be something that we all can be very proud of.

Plans are already being made for the new camping season. We have some new directors to help us, and we still have those who have been faithful for several years. You will see the new camping schedule in the *Free Will Baptist* in the near future. "Ya'll come and see us, you hear." ♦

Man's evil attitudes or thoughts produce wicked works. Satan contaminated the purity of Eve's thought process and convinced her that disobedience was acceptable as long as the outcome was more personal authority and equality with God. The philosophy produced here was "the end justifies the means." That philosophy is prevalent in our society today from the high offices of government to private dealings between individuals. Eve used her intimate relationship with Adam, who loved her, to promote the work of Satan and convince Adam to sin also. That sin produced a strained relationship between God and man, not only in Adam's day but for all men born from that day. The word, *alienated* means "cut off" or "estranged" from life and God. Much like a couple who has a strained or severed relationship through a divorce because of unreconcilable differences over broken vows, man's relationship with God had been cut off because of Adam's disobedience. Through His work of reconciliation, Jesus brought God and man together again in an intimate and loving relationship. It was as though Jesus stretched one hand toward Heaven to grasp the hand of God and one hand toward earth to grasp the hand of man. With a firm grip on both, He used every ounce of His strength in the dying moments of His life to pull those two hands toward each other and connect them for all eternity. Those who have received Christ as Saviour, have had their hands joined to God through Christ and enjoy that loving, intimate relationship described. —*The Advanced Quarterly* ♦





# February 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

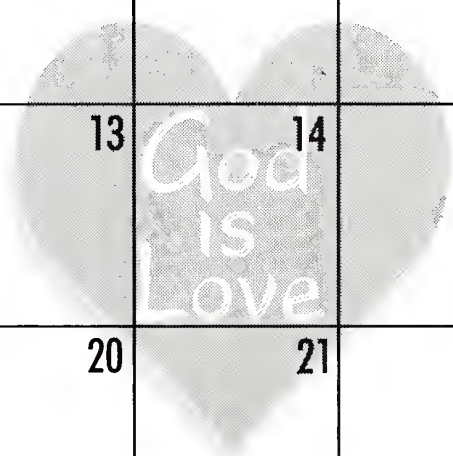
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Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			



† † †

**13 — Church Finance** Membership meeting, Mount Olive College, 10:30 AM.

**19 — Campus Visitation** Day, Mount Olive College.

**25 — Sunday School** Day

**18 — World Mission** Conference, Mount Olive College, 5:00 PM.

**20 — FWB Press Board** Meeting, Convention Headquarters, 10:00 AM.

The Free Will Baptist Denominational Calendar



## Glenns Honored

On Sunday, November 12, 2000, the Rev. and Mrs. Earl H. Glenn were honored at the morning worship service by the Woman's Auxiliary of Daniels Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, for their faithful years of service to the ministry. The Woman's Auxiliary initiated the occasion with a proposal to honor the Glenns during Minister's Month in October, with recognition on the "Wall of Honor" at the Free Will Baptist Headquarters in Ayden, North Carolina. However, due to previous engagements, Dr. David C. Hansley was not available to present the plaque to the Glenns until November 12.

Prior to the morning message, Mrs.



*Above: The Rev. David C. Hansley presents plaque to the Rev. and Mrs. Earl H. Glenn.*

Hattie Mae Everton, President of the Auxiliary, came forward and made preliminary remarks concerning the Glenns' fifty-one years of ministry in the denomination and nineteen years of service at Daniels Chapel. Mrs. Everton then called upon Dr. Hansley to come forward and present the "Wall of Honor" plaque to the Glenns. Upon receiving the plaque, the congregation responded with a standing ovation. Following the morning service, the Glenns were invited to the Family Life Center for a delicious meal prepared by the members of the Auxiliary. A large, beautifully decorated cake, with a heart in one corner which read "From Hearts of Love," adorned the dessert table. ❖

## Tribute to the Rev. Luther E. Bissette

*by Judith Bankston, Daughter*

The Bissette family lost a loving Christian husband, father, granddaddy, and pa on July 25, 2000, when the Rev. Luther E. Bissette went home to be with his Lord.

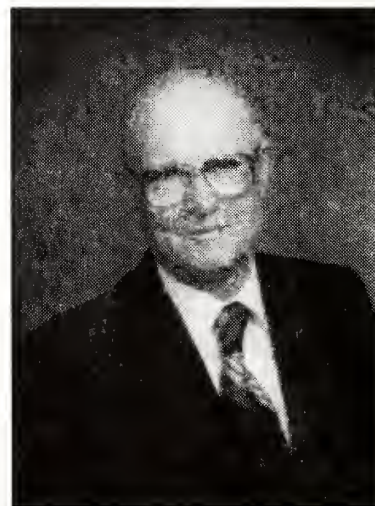
The journey on this earth began for Luther on November 16, 1917, in Wilson County, NC, when Polly Bissette gave birth to Luther. He grew up with his parents on a farm in Wilson County where he spent most of his life as a farmer.

Luther attended Marsh Swamp Church as a young boy. At the age of 16, He accepted the Lord as his personal Savior. From that time until his death, his desire was to grow in the likeness of his God.

A Christian home was begun on November 24, 1935, when Luther married Leona Manning. Luther and Leona had four children, eight grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

Being willing to serve the Lord, Luther was very active in the church. He served as Superintendent of Sunday School, teacher for the adult Sunday School class, and a deacon of Rock Springs Church, where he moved his membership after marrying Leona. For more than twenty years he served as clerk and treasurer of the Second Union Meeting of the Western Conference, treasurer of the Western Conference for twenty-four years, and was a member of the Executive Board.

Luther was licensed in 1971 and ordained on July 16, 1972, to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His first pastoral position was at his home church, Rock Springs, where he served for five years from 1971 - 1976. He was pastor of Dilda's Grove Church for almost eight years before serving Edgewood Church for fourteen years. The last service he conducted was on June 25, 2000.



Luther was a friend of Mount Olive College from its beginning in Mt. Olive in 1953. The week before his death, he established the Luther E. and Leona M. Bissette Endowed Scholarship Fund for Ministers at the college. His wish was to be able to help students who have been called to be ministers of God.

Luther not only read his Bible, but he lived it daily with his family, friends and neighbors. Second Timothy 4:7 reads: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." This was the life of Luther Bissette. ❖



## Kinston First Church December Highlights

**H**anging of the Greens program was delayed by snow, but not our spirits. Our annual Hanging of the Greens was held on Sunday, December 10, 2000, at 5:00 pm. The program entitled "Hanging of the Greens: A Celebration of the Advent Season," was written by Rev. Denzel Nonhof and adapted by Vickie Wade. Narrators were Jim Rouse and Vickie Wade. Presenters were: Sarah Watson, Annette Waters, Phoebe Kennedy, Children's Church members, Kay Avery, Patsy Swindell, Fay Quinn, Warren Quinn, Dallas Swindell, Hubert Waters, C. B. Wade, Ed Avery, Dana Mills, Tracy Mills, Bobby Phillips, and Rose Phillips. Special music was provided by the chancel choir and children's Church choir. Pastor James Owens and wife, Brenda, presented and shared the flame with the congregation. Flames passing in the dimly lit sanctuary added a warm glow to the illuminated candles in the windows and Chrismon tree. The 65 attendees exited to luminaries down the front steps.

Circle 5 made Christmas baskets for members in the local nursing homes. Nine of the circle members and three of their children delivered the baskets and sang Christmas carols.

A Church-wide Christmas party was

*Below: Newlywed game participants were Trevor and Laura Monroe, Robert and Louise Merritt, Ed and Kay Avery, and Dallas and Patsy Swindell.*



*Left: Kinston First Church sanctuary decorated for "Hanging of the Greens"*



*Above: Kay Avery, Megan Monroe, Faye Quinn, Sarah Watson, Jake Monroe, Kim Arnette, and Adrianna Arnette.*



*Above: Laura and Megan Monroe visited Mamie Ruth Conway at Britthaven Nursing Home.*

held on December 17 at 5:30. Everyone enjoyed the barbecue sandwiches, finger foods, and desserts. This was our first "Mixed-Bag Theatre" and the 60 attendees proclaimed it a huge success! We hope this will become an annual event.

We laughed along with the four couples playing the newlywed game hosted by Pastor James Owens and Brenda Owens.

Other participants in the evening's activities were: C. B. Wade, Vickie Wade, Anne McCleary, Laura Monroe, Ed Avery, Jennifer Zack, Hunter Toler, Ryan and Erin McCleary, Summer Jackson, and the Children's Church.

At the close of the evening, Vickie Wade shared a version of the Christmas Story entitled, "Twas the Night Before Eternity." This story had such a profound impact that everyone burst into applause to acknowledge the real reason we celebrate Christmas—Jesus Christ!

The children gathered round the Christmas tree for the reading of the Christmas Story from Luke. After the reading, gifts were distributed to every child.

All good things must come to an end and Pastor and Mrs. Owens presented each person with a gift bag of goodies as they departed. ❖



## Winter Greetings

by Rita O. Jones

**D**ecember is always a special month at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, NC, but this year, the decorations in the sanctuary seemed more beautiful than ever. From the live poinsettias donated by Mrs. Alice Cole to the tree with the angel on top, everything looked so colorful. It made the candlelight service and the Christmas program all the more special. Thank you to: Sandra Peedin for directing the program which explained what many of the symbols of Christmas represent. Thank you to Barbara Barbour for playing the piano and to the bell choir led by Ann Narron and Diana Bass, and to all the youth who participated and adults that helped out.

Powhatan's Relay For Life Team has started working for next spring by helping sponsor the "Tree of Hope" in memory of Vicky Bagley. Rhonda Davis

took the lead in getting the tree and ornaments for the event held on December 21. The Bell Choir performed and the Smith Family sang at the end of the program. It was a touching tribute to families that have had loved ones who have been victims of cancer.

The Youth of Powhatan are busy preparing for the Cape Fear District "talent exhibition" to be held in March. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes training and encouraging our future leaders. Continue to pray for our youth and the workers who volunteer with them.

We would like to send a special "hello" to Kelly Peedin, one of our youth who is now working at Cragmont. She is always happy to welcome visitors and tell them that she is from Powhatan. Keep up the good work Kelly, and we will send up our group this summer! ❖

## MOC Professor Selected For Who's Who

**D**r. Pepper Worthington has been selected for Who's Who Among American Teachers for the year 2000. She is presently professor of English at Mount Olive College and has served the college since 1979. Dr. Worthington has not only been a professor of English at MOC but also an author of more than ten books during her work at the college. Currently she is under contract to write a series of travel books called the *Tidbit Travels Series*, an outreach series to extend the college's global perspective. Dr. Worthington was born in Kinston, North Carolina in 1943, received her B.A. (cum laude) from Meredith College in 1965, her M.L.A. from Johns Hopkins University in 1969, and her Ph.D. (Phi Kappa Phi honors) from the University of Maryland at College Park in 1976. ❖

## Layman's League Helps to Extend the Christmas Spirit

by Harold Humbles

**C**hristmas caroling is never forgotten at Ormondsville Original Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, NC. The youth visited throughout the community, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Visits were made to shut-ins with smiles of love that will be long remembered. The Christmas spirit was extended to the shut-ins in the delivery of meals, cards, and more important in the sharing of prayers.



Above: Ormondsville Church carolers visited in the Home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Humbles.

Assisting the youth were members of the Layman's League, the Woman's Auxiliary, and other ladies of the church. Mrs. Mildred Humbles, mother of Carol Humbles, who is 95 years old, stated that she enjoyed the youth carolers and could hardly wait for them to arrive.

A cordial invitation is extended to attend Ormondsville Church and especially to hear the various Christian programs that are presented by the church with all age groups being involved. ❖



## Eastern District Study Course

by Happy R. Taylor

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention sponsored a study course on prayer hosted by the Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church Auxiliary on Saturday, November 11, 2000. Dr. Lloyd R. Bailey, Barrow Professor of Religion at Mount Olive College, was the speaker. He addressed three of the sub-areas of prayer: (1) prayers in the Bible, especially the Psalms; (2) prayers—public and private, in the life of the Church, (3) some practical advice on devotional prayer life in the present.

There were 10 churches represented and 41 in attendance. ❖



Above: (L to R): Camp Vandemere Representative Julia Ann Gaskins, Vice President Judith Kennedy, Benevolent Chairman Amy Scott, Professor Lloyd R. Bailey, Secretary Happy R. Taylor, President Angie Piner, and Treasurer Velma Morris.



## Harmon Joins Staff

Jason Harmon has joined the staff at the Free Will Baptist Press as a Folder and Binder. Harmon is 23 years old and attended East Carolina University. He is originally from Grimesland but now resides in Greenville with his wife Bridget. ❖

## A Special Thanks

I want to take this opportunity to thank all who remembered me with Christmas cards and gifts during the holiday season.

Kay Jones  
4031-B North Lee Street  
Ayden, NC 28513 ❖

## Note of Thanks

I wish to thank all of the churches, Sunday schools, and auxiliaries in Georgia and North Carolina for all of your cards, letters, and gifts, and especially for your prayers during this Christmas season, 2000. I love you all, and I pray for you. ❖

Mrs. E. C. (Eunice) Morris  
500 Pickwick Trail, #248  
Durham, NC 27704

## Usher Training

W intergreen Original Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, NC, is planning an Usher Training Seminar conducted by the Rev. David Charles Hansley.

This program will be held on March 12 and 13 at 7:00 PM each night. This program is for all pastors and/or ushers that will join us. If you plan to attend please contact Neal Cox either by phone at 252-633-3792 or by e-mail at Rnealcox@hotmail.com with a total of those planning to attend from your area so our church can adequately prepare. ❖

## Tee's Chapel Award Service

by Shirley Sellers

On Sunday, January 7, 2001, Sunday School Superintendent, Chad Ward held an awards service at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, NC, for those having completed the year 2000 with perfect attendance. Brad Massey assisted with the service and Pastor Dennis Pollock delivered the message.

The following is a list of recipients:

Jessica Edwards – 1 year  
Matthew Edwards – 1 year

Cody Norris – 5 years  
Edith Matthews – 5 years  
Vicky Wall – 9 years  
Alice Phillips – 11 years  
Dwight Grant – 12 years  
Glen Grant – 12 years  
Kate Godwin – 15 years  
Raymond Godwin – 15 years  
Windy Matthews – 16 years  
Doug Wall – 19 years  
David Matthews – 32 years  
Frankie Norris – 33 years ❖



## Notice of the Annual Meeting of The Church Finance Membership Holders To Be Held February 13, 2000

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Church Finance Association, Inc. will be held as follows:

Place: Mount Olive College      Date: February 13, 2001  
Murphy Center                      Time: 10:30 AM  
Mount Olive, NC

The purpose of this meeting is:

- 1) To review the financial condition of the Association and to act on the financial report.
- 2) The election of one (1) member of the Board of Directors to hold office for a term of five years.
- 3) The transaction of any other business which may properly come before the meeting.

You are urged to attend the meeting in person. However, membership holders who do not expect to attend are requested to sign, date and return the proxy provided. The execution of this proxy will not affect your right to revoke such proxy or to vote in person should you later decide to attend the meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
William D. Thigpen, Secretary

## 2001 Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Leagues March 17, 2001

Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church • Highway NC 561 East • Ahoskie, NC

Registration: 9:30 AM

Convention Convenes: 10:00 AM

The convention will conclude with lunch served by the host church. Join us for a day of:

- Christian growth with...*Theme "Discipleship of Gifts."*
- Praise with...*"Young Disciples" from Pine Level Church and the League "Sing-Spiration."*
- Excitement with...*Sword Drill Competition including Primary, Junior, Intermediate, and Adult Levels.*

The Original Free Will Baptist League has a wonderful legacy to pass onto all Christian soldiers. Take time out of your schedule to visit with us on March 17 at Hickory Chapel to discover how this legacy can benefit your Christian training for the battlefield of this world in the cause of Christ.

Contact: Becky Jo Sumner, Promotional Secretary OFWB League  
450 NC 561 East • Ahoskie, NC 27910 • (252) 332-6810

## Fifth Union Youth For Christ Rally

The young people of the Fifth Union Eastern District are invited to attend the Youth For Christ Rally on Saturday, February 10, at Memorial Original Free Will Baptist Church in Chocowinity. The Rally will begin at 7:00 pm and will feature special musical guests Second Edition. The evening will be filled with praise, worship, and fun activities for everyone. For more information about the Rally or the Pillars of Faith project, please contact Gail or Lisa Barton at 252-672-5697 or Rev. Mike Scott at 252-244-2245. We look forward to seeing you there! ♦

## 2001 Youth Convention Original Free Will Baptists



**Theme Scripture: 1 John 5:5**

**Public Seeking Topics:**

- † Noah and the Ark, *Genesis 6 - 9*
- † Jonah and the Whale, *Jonah 1:17 - 2:42*
- † Daniel and the Lion's Den, *Daniel 6:16 - 24*
- † Jesus and His Resurrection, *Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20*
- † Paul Shipwrecked, snake bites, long prison term, *Book of Acts*





## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington

**A**ugustine dramatically

describes his conversion experience in 386. He had been teaching philosophy in Milan and found himself reading the epistles of Paul one afternoon. Within his heart a storm grew until he raced out into the garden of the Mediterranean villa. He confesses: "I rushed out there so that no one would see me in such a wild state. And there I was, going mad on my way to sanity — dying on my way to life!" (44) His mind was battling, for he could not decide to be for God or for himself. He confesses: "I pulled at my hair, beat my forehead, locked my fingers together, gripped my knees with both hands. My whole body felt the agony of my desire to go over to you, but I could not will my soul to rise and cross over to God." (44). "I ran farther from the house, into the garden, and flung myself down on the ground under a fig tree. Tears streamed and flooded from my eyes. I cried out, 'How long will I keep saying, Soon and Tomorrow? Why can't I put an end to my uncleanness this very minute?'" (45).

At that moment Augustine picks up the Scriptures, opens it, and reads Romans 13:13-14: "Let us behave decently . . . not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality or debauchery . . . Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature" (46).

### Warring Within

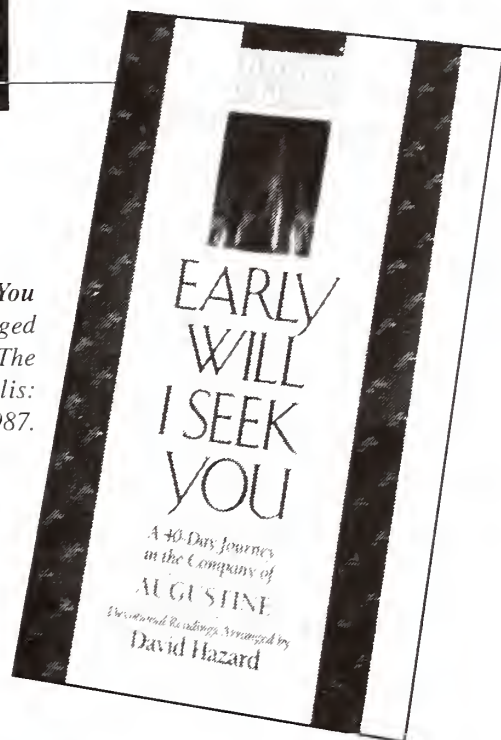
Augustine was ever mindful of the struggle within the self. The warring within was made known to man through what he called "this plague of desires" (130), this "war that is not external but internal" (123), this lusting war where "the fleshly forces will hunger and cry to be satisfied" (124), this warfare "between fesh and spirit" (124)

that cannot be an "ultimate victory" (124) in this life. What is man to do with this warring within? Seek forgiveness? Seek to grow in God's love? Seek to journey toward the City of God? Seek to be transformed into "the living image of God?" (93). Augustine tells us to seek "the ascent toward higher things — which begins when we decide to love as far as it is possible for men to love" (88).

### The City of God

What does Augustine mean by seeking the City of God? Why is seeking this celestial City of God an ultimate good for man? The search for the eternal points to a "personal, inner revelation from God's Spirit" (117) rather than to a belief of "logic and reason" (117), according to Augustine. He stresses the importance of the City of God for man's ultimate happiness. What then is this eternal City?

Augustine writes: "It is to live with our eyes on the goal — the prize of our faith, the upward calling—to a celestial City of God, which shines up ahead, high above us. When we fix the eye of our soul upon this 'city on a hill' (Matthew 5:14-16), the joy and longing to reach its bright walls causes us to lay aside every earthly weight (Hebrews 12:1). Its shining light of truth becomes our inner government, regulating all that we do, so that we make wide and good choices. If we follow this light, it will keep us from turning off the path into dark byways, so that we delay in



reaching the goal, or miss it altogether. . . So it is this sense of an upward destiny that must be fulfilled for its own sake—the capacity created within us to be imitators of God (Ephesians 5:1) . . . I must also tell you that this bright City of God -- which beckons us and is, at the same time, being formed in us — is not reached during this life in the sense that we can reach an earthly city. It is not a spiritual state of 'perfection' in which we can say, 'I've done enough good works, so I can sit down and rest now.' No, it is that state of relying on God continuously, so that we are walking, acting, and speaking what is perfect and good" (118).

### Conclusion

Augustine's emphasis upon faith, the condition of the heart, and the practice of love make him a pilgrim headed toward the Celestial City. He reminds us: "The highest good that flows from, and leads to the City of God is the promise of everlasting peace—all things reconciled and in order under the love of God" (138). ♦



# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning



**P**aintings of Mary and the child Jesus and the young John the Baptist appear in every Christian group in every country of the

world, including our own Free Will Baptist mission site in Palawan, Philippines. We very often see the mother and child and interpret this as Mary and Jesus. If this were all the painting was about, it would still be most marvelous. However, this painting has a small child to Mary's right who is the announcer of the Messiah.

## Artistic Style

This style is folk art for its lack of definition of the figures, its lack of shading, and its lack of accurate human proportions. The painting reveals traditional folk art clothing: (1) straw hat attached to Mary, (2) the sling which holds the child, (3) Mary's full skirt, (4) the robe-like costume of John the Baptist, (5) use of primary colors (red, blue, yellow), (6) primary colors mixed to make the secondary colors (green, orange).

## Symbolism

One striking symbol in this folk art is the bamboo which seems to break at the corner of the painting and come across to shade the opposite corner. It is as if the artist is making a frame here.

However, this may also be interpreted as a reflection of the traditional story in Asia where trees bow down at the time of the birth of Jesus. This is important



*Source: Mary, Jesus, and John the Baptist. Oil painting with oil-pastel on primed canvas and stretcher. Folk artist unknown. From Palawan, Philippines. Private collection.*

to the West to be understood as the rejoicing of Nature with the birth of the Savior. It need now, however, be as literally interpreted as it is in the East, for Nature is very apparent.

In this painting is the symbol of the banana leaf. One of the main crops in the Philippines is the banana tree. The banana leaf stretches across the lower torso of young John the Baptist. On our right we see a native lily which blooms to decorate that space and to celebrate the child. Nature symbolizes the celebration of the birth of Jesus and the announcement made by young John the Baptist of the significance of the birth.

The flowing hair of Mary surrounds an extremely oval-shaped face. Indeed,

the oval shape is repeated by Mary's hair, by the child's blanket, and by the movement of brush strokes.

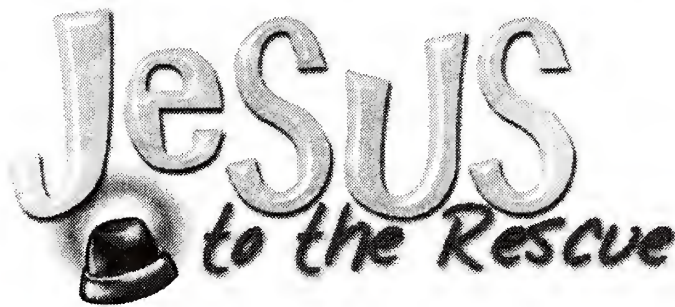
## Conclusion

Isn't it wonderful to know that this Christian folk art is from a Free Will Baptist mission site? We are blessed to see the basic message of the celebration of the birth of the child and the announcement of the child as the long-awaited for Messiah.

Whether in America or in the Philippines, the message remains the same even though the appearance of Mary, Jesus, and John the Baptist may be strikingly different. ♦



# VBS Workshops



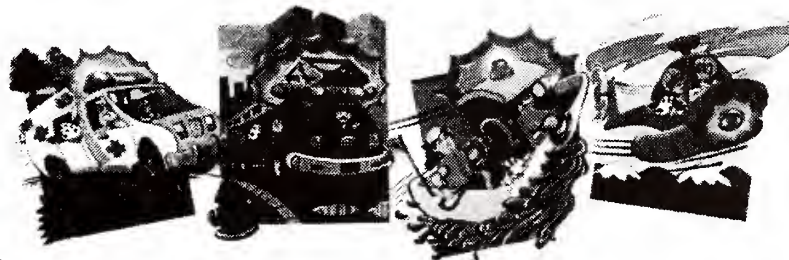
are coming soon!

Friday, March 9, 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 10, 10:00 AM

at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, NC

Representatives from Standard will do the workshops. Other VBS themes will also be available.



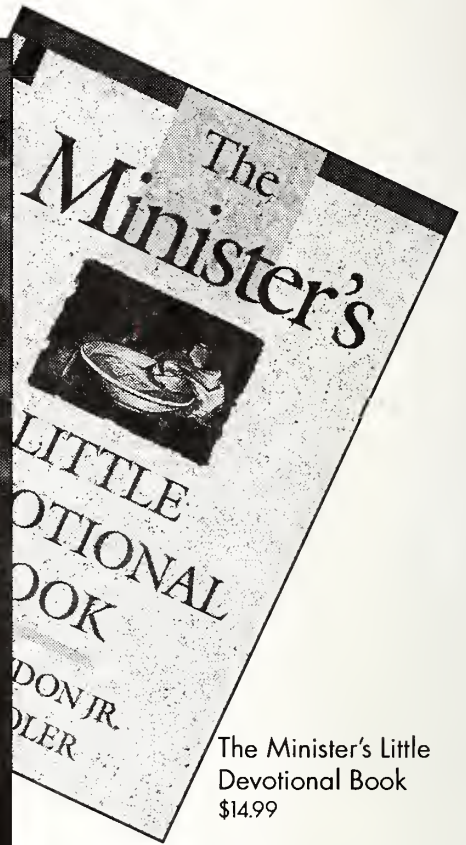
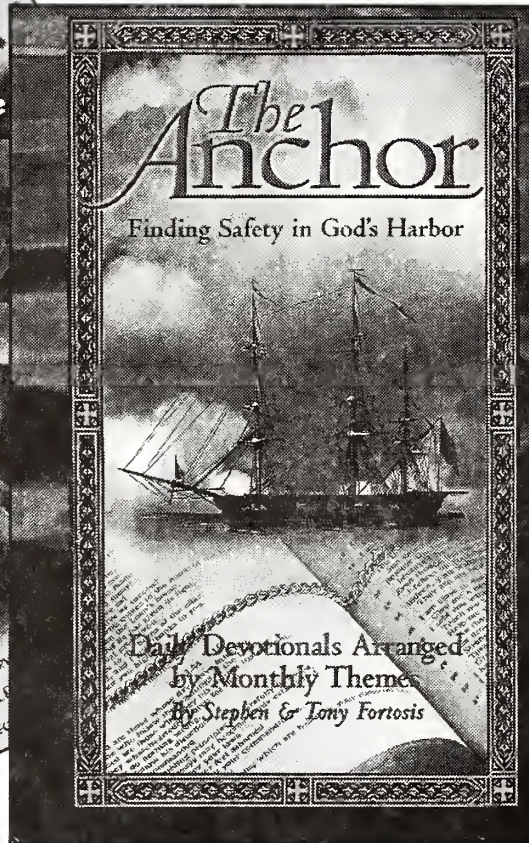
"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."  
Hebrews 13:5



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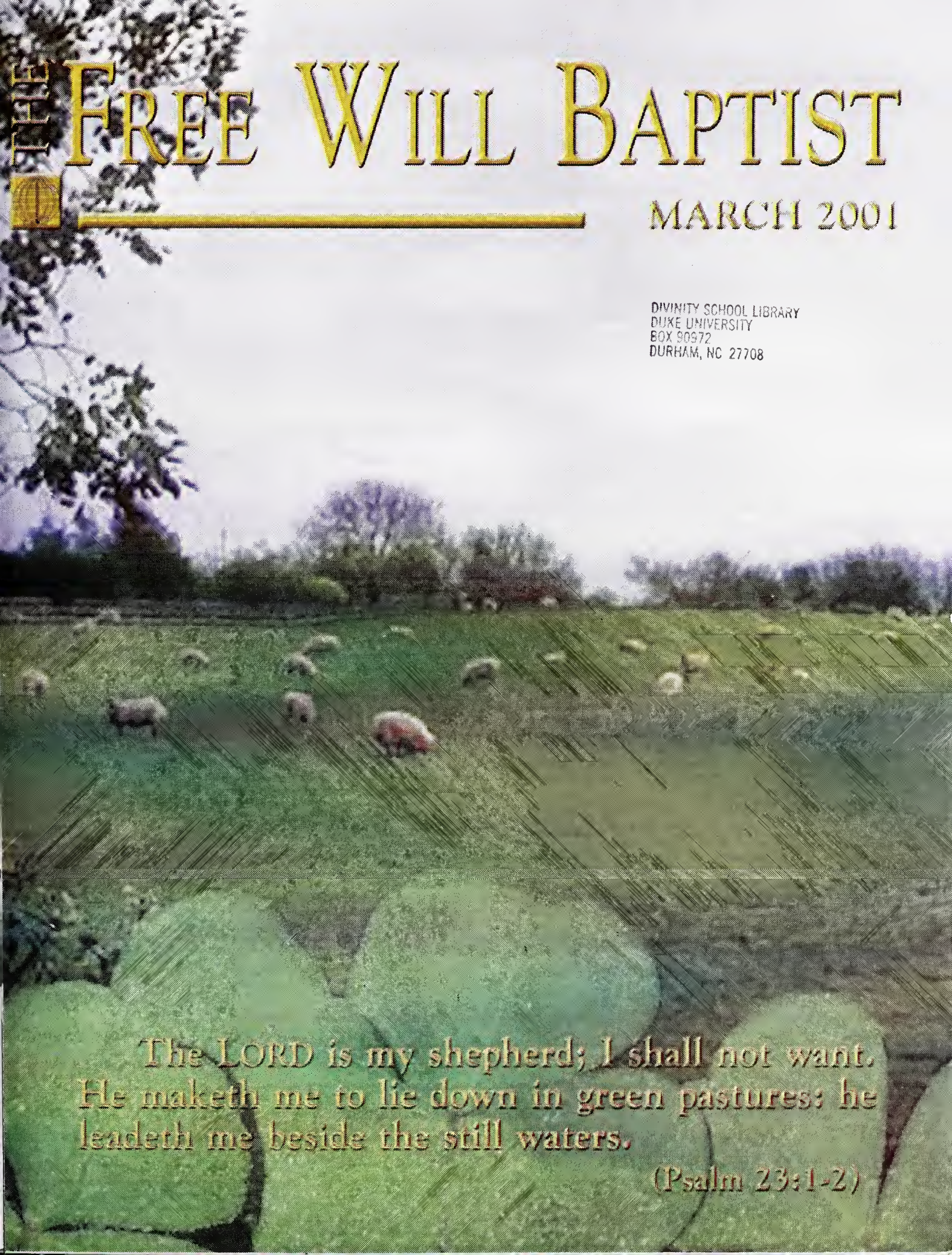
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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MARCH 2001

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The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he  
leadeth me beside the still waters.

(Psalm 23:1-2)



## The Christian Action League

**M**any Original Free Will Baptists are familiar with the organization known as the Christian Action League of North Carolina. It is likely that some of our churches still support it on a regular basis. Not too many years ago, a representative of the CAL was allotted time on our Convention's program each year. Just exactly why and when this practice was discontinued, we are not certain. It would seem, however, that we would be doing well to once again allow such a worthwhile organization the opportunity to represent.

To better understand its purpose, we recently secured a copy of CAL's Mission Statement, which is as follows:

*"Motivated by firm convictions regarding matters of personal and social righteousness and realizing the unceasing efforts made by evil forces to corrupt the moral, ethical and spiritual ideals of our land, we hereby unite ourselves in an organization to further the cause of civic and social righteousness and promote the highest standards of Christian morality in the lives of our people."*

This Mission Statement is straight forward; it needs no explanation or justification. In supporting its mission, Christians from all denominations do, indeed, have a part in promoting "...the highest standards of Christian morality in the lives of our people."

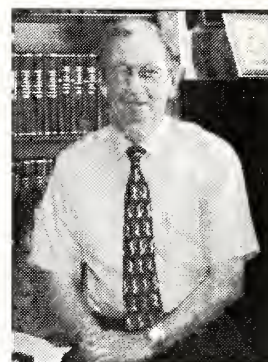
The latest issue of *The Beacon*, CAL's newsletter, carried several items that caught our attention. The following one clearly identifies its bold and courageous stand as set forth in the Mission Statement:

### "Somebody Needs To Do Something..."

- When 1.4 million babies are aborted every year in this country (NC Right to Life 2000);
- When 51 percent of church-involved youth drink beer and 52 percent use marijuana, and these do not differ greatly from youth who are not in church (Ethics and Religious Liberty Com. Study 1997);
- When in 1999, there was an average of one auto alcohol-related fatality every 33 minutes

## Editor's thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



and an average of one alcohol-related injury approximately every 2 minutes (US Dept. of Trans. National Highway Traffic Safety Admin. Fact Sheet 1999, [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov));

- When 3 million alcohol-related violent crimes occur each year and 3 out of 4 cases of spouse abuse are alcohol related (Bureau of Justice Stats Characteristics of Crime 12/13/2000);
- When Christians are actively persecuted and discriminated against on the job, in our schools, and by the government;
- When we can no longer pray or hang a copy of the Ten Commandments in our public school;
- When the churches of our nation are well acquainted with these issues, yet largely unwilling to address the social and moral problems of our day for fear of ridicule or rejection or because they think the church shouldn't be involved in politics, **Somebody needs to do something!**

"For nearly 100 years the Christian Action League of North Carolina has been doing something. We've been on the front lines combating those forces that attack Biblical standards of morality. Before there was a *Moral Majority*, a *Christian Coalition*, the *American Family Association* or a *Center of Reclaiming America*, CAL was already on the scene, taking action in North Carolina. However, the League would have never been possible without the generous prayer support and gifts of God's people. Never before has that support been more needed than now." (Used by Permission.)

Recently, Joe S. Lennon, stepped down as President of Christian Action League after serving for 15 years. The Rev. Coy Privette has been elected as its new president. Maybe we can do more in our support of the Christian Action League of North Carolina, and especially in our prayer support. ❖



## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*, PO Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$10.07; two years, \$18.55; four years, \$36.04 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$9.50, \$17.50, and \$34, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies). **Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours:** Ayden, 9 AM–5 PM, Monday–Saturday; Wilson, 10 AM–6 PM, Monday–Saturday; New Bern and Kinston, 9:30 AM–5 PM, Monday–Saturday.

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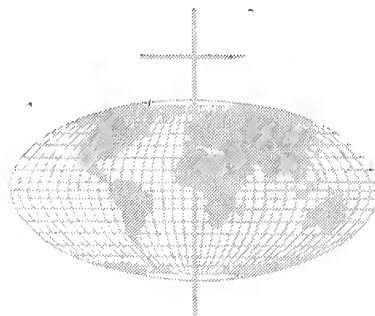
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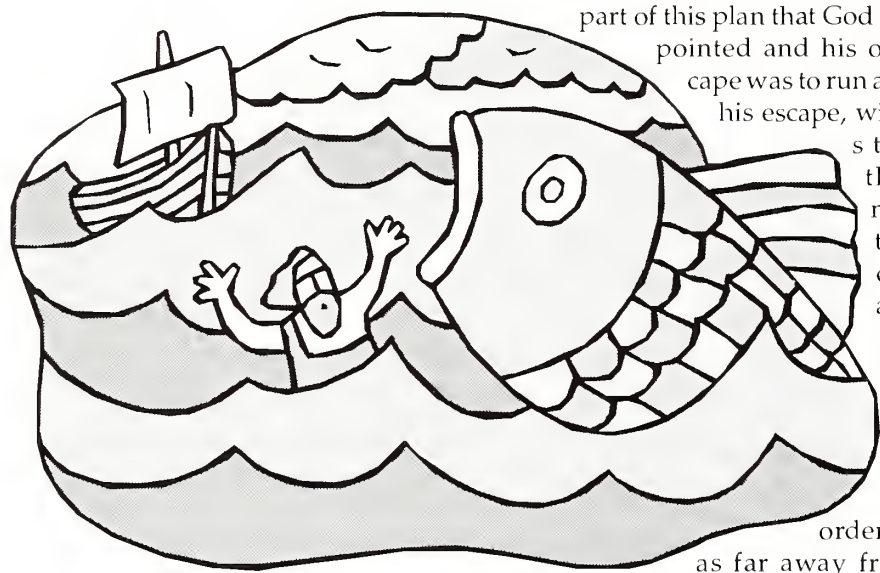
*April is  
Home Missions  
& Evangelism  
Month*



*March is  
Foreign Missions  
Month*



# Teenager Swallowed By Big Fish



by Kathy Norman,  
First Free Will Baptist Church,  
Greenville, NC

**A**s reported on November 5, 2000, a teenager of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville was swallowed by a *big* fish. Witnesses report that this particular young man had been called by God to go to another city to preach, a city with a reputation of being extremely raucous and rowdy.

Unfortunately, he had heard the rumors about this particular town and did not want to get in the way of those people. He decided that he wanted no part of this plan that God had appointed and his only escape was to run away. In

his escape, witnesses

stated that he made it to the coast and gained passage on a cargo ship in order to get as far away from the

Lord as possible.

It wasn't long before the captain of the ship noticed that it was beginning to look a little stormy, but he had no idea that he was about to encounter the "perfect storm." As the waves grew bigger and bigger, the captain had serious doubts about being able to control the ship and save his crew. It tossed about so violently that the captain decided their only hope was to get rid of all the cargo they were carrying.

As he shouted the order to the sailors, the first mate stepped forward and told his superior that their efforts would be worthless and that they were going to be destroyed by the walls of water rolling toward the tiny ship. As the captain thought more about his options, he ordered another sailor to get the teenage preacher up on deck so that he could pray for them because the gods they carried on board that ship were not helping.

As the sailor left to get the teenage preacher, the captain noticed that three of the sailors were playing a game called paper, scissors, rock. He was absolutely stunned to think that these three men couldn't find anything better to do to help save the ship than to play this silly child's game. When he inquired of the men why they were playing instead of working, they responded that the purpose of the game was to see who had brought the tragedy upon them.

When the teenage preacher overheard their conversation, he confessed to them that he was the reason that God was angry. The young man also suggested that they throw him overboard. It was the only way the storm would recede, thus saving the ship and its crew.

Witnesses relate that it wasn't long before an enormous fish appeared and swallowed the teenage preacher shortly after he was thrown into the water. Just to give you an idea of the size of the fish, its head was about the size of a VW Beetle car. It was the biggest fish ever reported being seen.

*"...an enormous fish  
appeared and  
swallowed the teenage  
preacher"*

They just knew the young man would never be seen or heard from again. But, lo and behold, three days later, that big fish swam inland to shore. Some say that as they watched the fish, they knew something was about to happen. The fish started making terrible noises and then reared up high as if to throw itself



on shore. People on the shore began scrambling and running to and fro to get out of the way, because they knew that fish had fierce indigestion and could throw up at any second. And sure enough, he did.

Everyone expected to see a terrible mess of smaller fish, plankton, and whatever else that enormous "thing" had eaten. But what did they see instead? They saw that teenage preacher from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville come flying out of his mouth. Not only that, but he was still alive!

*"...he had just prayed  
the entire three days  
and nights."*

When this young preacher was asked about his adventure inside the fish, he reported that he had just prayed the entire three days and nights. He did admit that he found the interior of the fish to be slightly wet, slimy, and a little unpleasant, but he hardly gave it a thought because he was too busy praying for another chance to obey God. He told the Lord in his prayers that if he was granted this chance he would never again disobey, and he would even go to that terrible city to preach. So the young man told the people on the shore that he appreciated their concern and curiosity but he needed to leave immediately—to keep his promise to God.

As you have probably surmised, the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville enjoyed a magnificent comedy performed by the youth of their church on November 5, 2000, as directed by the associate pastor, Joey Williams. The play has a brilliant, humorous side, which the youth of the church performed with marvelous enthusiasm, all the while, clearly upholding the message of obedience to God. The props used in the play were skillfully made, and the youth performed with amazing fervor and passion.



*"...if he was granted  
this chance he  
would never again  
disobey, and he  
would even go to  
that terrible city to  
preach."*

The play began with Philip Entzminger as the narrator, singing to the tune of the theme from Gilligan's Island, "Now sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a fateful trip, that started from this Joppa port, aboard this tiny ship..." Jeremy Jones starred in the role of Jonah, and the captain of that "fateful" ship was cleverly performed by Joey Williams, Associate Pastor. The first mate of the ship was performed by Matthew Norman, and the three sailors

were played by Tyler Schnedler, Joshua Hobgood, and Nathan Hanchey. The Assyrian King was played by Kelley George, and his queen was portrayed by Brandy Jones. The three Assyrians were played by Tyler Schnedler, Nathan Hanchey, and Eric Fleming with Ashley Raines portraying the part of an Assyrian wife. Heather Hicks narrated echo voices and the voice of the big fish, while the rude voice was narrated by Rick Raines, youth leader.

There is more to the story than reported above, but we don't want to give away the ending of the play because we would like for you to have the opportunity to see this theatrical production. The youth of First Free Will Baptist of Greenville are excited and ready to travel so that you, too, can have this wonderful and humorous message presented right in your own church. To establish a date for your church to see this marvelous performance, please call Joey Williams, Associate Pastor, at 252-756-6600, or write to him at First Free Will Baptist Church, 2426 South Charles Boulevard, Greenville, NC 27858. We look forward to visiting you soon! ❖



# A Message from the Executive Director, Free Will Baptist Press

by R. Clifford Gray, Executive Director

From time to time, questions arise concerning the progress and financial status of our ministries, including the ministry of the Free Will Baptist Press. I would like to give you a few facts concerning the financial position of the Free Will Baptist Press. Over the past year and a half, we have been able to reduce our long-term debt from \$224,000 to \$147,000. Most of the debt was due to the replacement of the roof, a new boiler, and the purchase of the building in Kinston which houses our Kinston Bible and Bookstore, as well as construction of the interior of the new Wilson Bible and Bookstore.

Our sales for this fiscal year through the month of January totaled \$1,034,774, which is an increase of \$78,700 above the same time last year.

Not only are our finances good, but we also have very dedicated and loyal employees. Nearly half of our full-time employees have over 15 years of service with the Free Will Baptist Press. As a

denomination, we should be very proud of these men and women as they continue to give of themselves to make the Free Will Baptist Press the best it can be.

The Free Will Baptist Press is in existence to serve the Lord Jesus Christ and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. It is the duty of each church, minister and layperson of our denomination to support the Free Will Baptist Press. As stated in our *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government*... "It is the duty of each congregation to pay into its treasury sufficient funds to support local church programs and the entire denominational program" (p. 76). It also states: "It is the pastor's duty to" "...promote all denominational institutions, enterprises, and programs, (p. 70). Each pastor and church has the duty to support each and every aspect of the denominational work. This includes the Free Will Baptist Press.

In reference to the *Articles of Faith*, how can anyone who does not fully support the Free Will Baptist Press in the

purchase of literature, printing needs, and church supplies be concerned about the financial status of the Free Will Baptist Press? The failure to support the ministry of the Free Will Baptist Press, or any other ministry, is helping to create a financial problem for the denomination. It is my hope that each person who reads this will ask about this matter in their church, and if support has been lacking or diminished, the church will fully support this ministry that has faithfully served Free Will Baptists for more than one hundred and twenty-six years.

I thank each of you who support the Free Will Baptist Press. To each of you who do not, I pray that you will reconsider the words written in our *Articles of Faith*. If anyone would like to meet with me to discuss the Free Will Baptist Press, I would be more than happy to accommodate you.

Again, I am glad to say that the Free Will Baptist Press is alive and well, but we need your help to keep it that way. ❖

## A Short History of Mount Olive College

*A Perspective on the First Fifty Years*

by W. Burkette Raper, President Emeritus

Under an agreement with the Mount Olive College Press, I am preparing a history of the first fifty years of Mount Olive College (1951-2001). The schedule calls for the book to be ready for distribution in the fall of 2001, to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the chartering of the College.

Later, I plan to write a more complete history. At this time, however, my primary objective is to provide a basic orientation to the historical development of the College for students, faculty, administration, trustees and others related to its work, including ministers and laypersons in the Free Will Baptist Church, alumni, and the general public. A half-century is long enough to test the limits of an "oral tradition," and if the history of Mount Olive College is to

provide any reference points for the future, I believe we must identify our moorings. In this publication the goals I envision include:

1. Setting forth the reasons for the founding of the College;
2. Discussing its mission;
3. Tracing the pilgrimage of the College from Black Mountain to the Mount Olive Elementary School Building and on to the present campus, with a picture and brief account of how each building came to be;
4. Outlining the historical and continuing relationship between the College and Original Free Will Baptists;
5. Emphasizing the educational philosophy which has undergirded the development of the academic and student-life programs;
6. Identifying major issues and problems encountered, including the procurement of resources for operations, campus development and the building of an endowment; and

7. Recognizing persons who have provided extra-ordinary leadership, services and support in making the College what it has become.

Contributing writers will include a number of persons who have had a long and meaningful relationship with the College. In addition, long-time friends of the College are encouraged to provide brief statements on their most meaningful memories regarding the establishing and development of the College. Please address your comments to:

W. Burkette Raper,  
President Emeritus  
Mount Olive College  
634 Henderson Street  
Mount Olive, NC  
Fax: 919-658-7185

e-mail: [rnbevell@exchange.moc.edu](mailto:rnbevell@exchange.moc.edu) ❖



# Kidney Transplant Needed

by Carla Combs and Dixie McLawhorn, Editorial Assistants

**A**n employee of the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden is seeking an organ donor for a much-needed kidney transplant.

Wallie Hargrove, Accounts Manager at the Press, and writer of *The Junior Quarterly* and *Junior Workbook*, has been diagnosed with focal and segmented glomerulosclerosis, which has led to chronic renal failure. According to her doctor, Graham V. Byrum, Jr., M.D., Wallie's condition will worsen and will require dialysis unless she receives a kidney transplant. With a successful transplant, her prognosis would be normal kidney function without the need for dialysis.

Wallie first learned of her condition a decade ago, when a routine physical revealed excessive protein in her kidneys. Initially, doctors suspected Lupus, a condition which causes joint pain, fatigue, and can attach itself to different organs of the body, including the kidneys. A kidney biopsy showed no sign of Lupus; therefore, it was ruled out.

Since then, Wallie has taken medication to maintain her blood pressure. Her husband, Steve, who, for the past six years has been the pastor of Christian Chapel Church in Pink Hill, gives her a weekly shot of EPO, which gives her much needed energy. In the ten years since her diagnosis, her kidney function has slightly regressed. She attributes that to prayer. She and Steve pray together for a complete recovery.

In December 2000, Wallie learned that her kidney function had significantly deteriorated, giving cause for some concern from her doctor. A kidney transplant would be the most effective way to combat the kidney failure; however, the search for a willing donor that is a match may take some time. And time is something that Wallie is not wasting. When she returned to work the next day,



she immediately told her co-workers about her condition and the need for finding a match.

"I have really enjoyed working with Wallie; it has been a real privilege working with her. I've learned so much from her, not only in our work, but as a person. She has become a friend to me. I just hope the Lord will bless her with a successful transplant," says Faye Avery, Accounting Manager at the Press.

Wallie will be placed on the National Registry for Organ Transplant, in an effort to acquire the much needed kidney as soon as is possible. Unfortunately, her husband, Steve, and daughter, Paula, are not qualified candidates. Her son, Grant, is now beginning to exhibit symptoms of the disease, and is therefore not a potential donor. Wallie's sister, who resides in Florida, is a prime candidate for matching and will be tested soon.

The first test used to determine a match is routine blood typing, according to Dr. Byrum. Those with a compatible blood type will then be tested for "histo-capability antigens" to determine the exact match.

All expenses to the potential donor, including workup, the actual surgery, and any follow-up care that is needed

are paid out of a special transplant fund.

The donor will have a hospital stay of approximately 5-7 days and may return to work as early as a month. In some cases, the donor may have to wait up to two months before returning to work. Wallie will have a longer hospital stay of approximately 10-14 days and will initially make follow-up visits to her doctor twice weekly.

Risks associated with donating a kidney are anesthesia, bleeding, and infection. While there are always risks involved with donating an organ, Dr. Byrum does not feel that donating a kidney will cause any long-

term serious effects with normal kidney function. The doctors take meticulous measures in evaluating potential donors, therefore making the procedure as safe as is possible.

Wallie has other risk factors, mostly related to the immunosuppressive medication that will be necessary for her to take. She could get an infection, develop diabetes, high cholesterol, or have problems with high blood pressure.

The main thing she has asked for from everyone is to keep her in their prayers. In speaking of her church family, she said, "They pray for me; they're good to me." She relies on those prayers and the prayers of Steve, who is expecting a miracle and prays for a complete recovery.

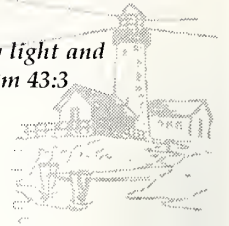
We, at the Press, encourage you to remember Wallie in your daily prayers. If you would like to talk with someone concerning possibly becoming a kidney donor, you can call Wallie at 252-746-6128, ext. 224, and she will put you in contact with the appropriate transplant coordinator. ❖



## Camp Vandemere: A Place For Personal Reflection

*by The Rev. Mike Scott*

*"Send out thy light and  
truth..." Psalm 43:3*



**L**ocated on the banks of the beautiful Bay River, Camp Vandemere affords those seeking communion with God a welcome respite from the fast-paced pressures of this present world.

We are taught in Holy Scripture that "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handywork (Psalm 19:1)," and the beauty and majesty of creation is captured in the breathtaking panorama of water, sky, and land that is Camp Vandemere. There was a time when Jesus took His disciples and "...went aside privately into a desert place..." (Luke 9:10), and since then many wayward pilgrims have once again found their way by turning aside and meditating upon the awesome majesty of God.

As they looked upward to Him, they were also able to look within and to re-

discover His power, grace, love, and mercy that permeated their very being. Renewed and refreshed, they were able to reenter the battle and to stand tall against the enemy and against the onslaught of his attack. How wonderful it is to be able to be alone with God and to meditate upon His grace and glory.

Much work has been done recently to the camp to enhance its beauty and to make it more enjoyable to those we are privileged to serve. The old Gilikin House has been completely demolished and removed, providing an unspoiled view of the river. The boys and girls dorms have been painted and the rooms of the family lodge have been freshened up in preparation for those who would like to visit. Five canoes, three paddleboats and two trampolines have been added for the recreational enjoyment of young and old alike, and by the time camping season begins in May, a

brand new 20'x40' in-ground swimming pool will be completed. For those who like to enjoy all that nature has to provide, spaces for campers with full water and electrical hook-ups, along with tent spaces, are available. The courteous staff of the camp is available full-time to insure that your every need is met.

If you have been to Camp Vandemere in the past, or if this is going to be your first visit, it is our hope that you will find a warm and welcome atmosphere, but more than this, it is our prayer that you will find a place where God can be discovered and where personal reflection and meditation will instill faith and victory in your soul.

Whether you come for a full week of camp or for a weekend retreat or for a day of soul searching, may your pilgrimage be enriched by the beauty of the camp and by the awe-inspiring presence of God. ♦

## Camp Vandemere 2001 Schedule

April 28 — **Clean-up Day.**

May 25 - 28 — **Young People's Mission Retreat 2001.** Ray and Ginny Conner, Directors, 167 Holly Springs Road; Newport, NC 28570, Phone: (252) 223-4750.

May 28 - June 1 — **Tabernacle Baptist Church,** John Thompson, Director.

June 1 - 2 — **Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat.**

June 4 - 8 — **General Youth Camp,** David Parrish, Director, PO Box 705, Wadesboro, NC 28170, Phone: (704) 694-9432.

June 11 - 15 — **General Youth**

**Camp (Ages 13 - 18),** Tommy Yopp, Director, 401 NC Hwy. 306-S, Grantsboro, NC 28529, Phone: (252) 745-5979, (There will be a \$15.00 Activity Fee for each child).

June 18 - 22 — **Woman's Week,** Audrey Quinn, Director, 461 Wintertgreen Road, Cove City, NC 28523, Phone: (252) 638-6406.

June 25-29 — **General Youth Camp,** Jason Modlin, Director, 100 St. Anne's Road, Nashville, NC 27856, Phone: (252) 459-8664.

July 2-6 — **Available.**

July 9-13 — **Bible Explorer's Week (Ages 7-13),** Joe Ratcliff,

Director, 6280 US Hwy. 17-N, Vanceboro, NC 28586, Phone: (252) 244-0207, (There will be a \$15.00 Activity Fee for each child).

July 17 - 20 — **General Youth Camp** (Check-in: 2:00 Sunday), Eva Mae Clark, Director, 465 Half Moon Road; New Bern, NC 28560, Phone: (252) 637-5346.

July 23 - 27 — **General Youth Camp** Barry Hodowanic, Director, 6270 Neuse Road, Grantsboro, NC 28529, Phone: (252) 249-0133 or (252) 322-8111 (Ext. 8371).

August 18 — **All Day Singing By The River**





*Left: State President of Layman's League, Elmer Harrell, presents new charter to Keith Murphy, Grimsley Church Layman's League President (right), and Pastor Melvin Moore.*



## Charter Presented

State Layman's League Vice President, Russell Tyson, presents new Charter and Program to President, Melvin White of the Core Point Free Will Baptist Church Layman's League at Blount's Creek, NC, on January 25, 2001. The Lord continues to move forward bringing our Layman together as one in fellowship and devotion, fulfilling our goal to walk in His footsteps each day of our lives. ❖

## Grimsley Church Receives Charter

On January 22, 2001, State Layman League President, Elmer Harrell, presented the latest Charter and Program to the Grimsley Church, Snow Hill, NC. After the presentation, Harold Humbles, State Secretary spoke with several concerning the history of the church and was given an article that was written in great detail by Valerie Wood, giving exciting events of how Grimsley Church came into existence, dating back to 1752.

Grimsley Church and a few other churches in the surrounding area were believed to have been organized possibly around 1728. Many churches have struggled to keep their doors open, but one can readily recognize the strong presence of the Lord at Grimsley Church. We are thankful to have them in our latest Chartering Program.

The Ladies Auxiliary and the Layman served a very delicious meal. ❖

## Central Conference Layman's League Dates to Remember

**March 5, 2001:** Free Union Church, Walstonburg, NC, Meal 6:45 PM; Business 7:30 PM.

**May 4, 2001:** State Layman's Convention, Harrell's Chapel Church, Snow Hill, NC, Meal 6:45 PM, Business, 7:30 PM (Hope to have a lot of our ministers there).

**May, 2001:** Ladies Night (To Be Announced).

**June 1-2, 2001:** "Spiritual Life Retreat" Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, NC. Free Bar-B-Que dinner, Friday afternoon June 1 at 6 PM; Saturday, three speakers: The Revs. Chuck Owens, Frank Harrison, and Ray Conner. Breakfast, 9:30 AM; Lunch, 12:30 PM. Recreation and Fellowship.

**June 4, 2001:** Elm Grove Church, Ayden, NC, Meal, 6:45 PM; Business, 7:30 PM.

**September 10, 2001:** King's Crossroads, Farmville, NC, Meal, 6:45 PM; Business, 7:30 PM.

**December 3, 2001:** Not Scheduled Yet ❖

*Note: Correction to The Free Will Baptist, January, 2001*

## State Layman's League Board and Officers

Floyd Newsome	(2001)	Randy Tyson	(2003)
Western		Central	
Robert Ramsey	(2001)	Herman Tyson	(2003)
Eastern		Eastern	
Stanley Jenkins	(2001)		
Eastern			
Robert Tripp	(2001)	<b>Board Pastoral Advisor:</b>	
Eastern		The Rev. Mike Scott	
Elmer Harrell	(2002)	<b>President:</b>	
Central		Elmer Harrell	
Dan Varnelson	(2002)	<b>Vice President:</b>	
Eastern		Russell Tyson	
Webster Williams	(2002)	<b>Secretary:</b>	
Central		Harold Humbles	
Frank Parsons	(2002)	<b>Treasurer:</b>	
Cape Fear		Robert Tripp	
Paul Beaman	(2003)	<b>Promotional:</b>	
Central		Randy Beaman and	
Earl Shackelford	(2003)	Harold Humbles	
Central		<b>Member at Large:</b>	
		John Newton	❖



# My Visit to the Holy Land

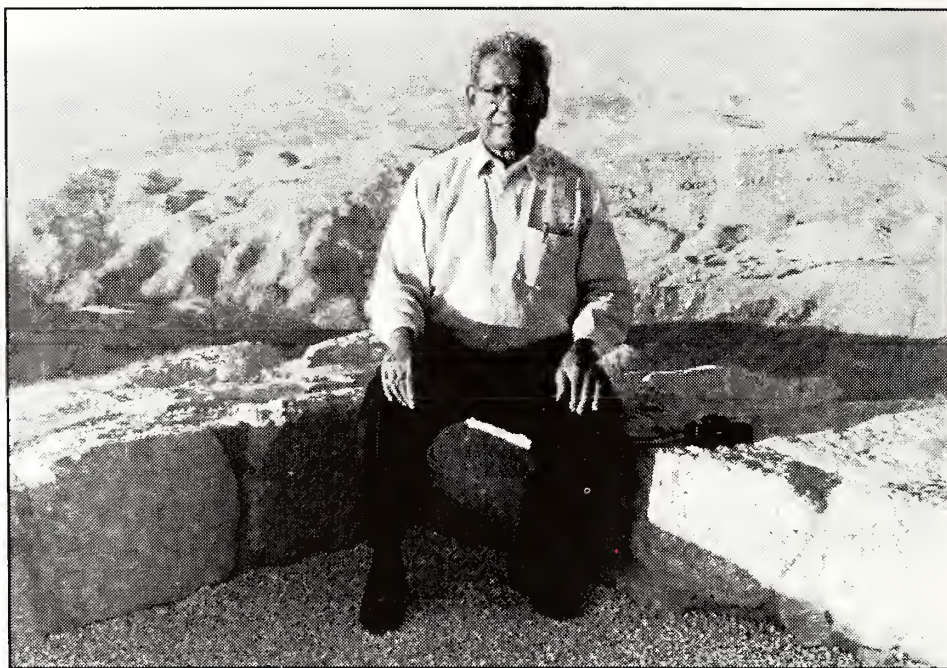
by Dr. E. M. Lall

**S**ince 1960 it has been my desire to visit the Holy Land, which came true in 2000, after four decades. I cannot resist declaring that the true ambition, divine hope, and firm resolution lead to attainment at an appropriate time at His command. At the same time, I am thankful to the Rev. Harold Jones, our Director-Treasurer, and the Board of Foreign Missions for encouraging me at the first instance and, subsequently, keeping me informed of the violence and troubles persisting there. However, I finally made up my mind to take this visit, thinking that in case I came in the grip of violence and die in the land of our Lord, what a blessing it would be! However, I did not come across any untoward incidence in my trip to Israel, Jordan and Egypt.

There is a saying that "there are ten measures of beauty in the Universe, nine belong to Jerusalem and one to the rest of the world. Whoever has not seen Jerusalem in her glory has never seen a beautiful city in his life." Holy to Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, Jerusalem, the city of one hundred names and one thousand faces, is undoubtedly the Jewel in the crown, i.e. Israel. There is not another city in the world that has been the cause of so many armed conflicts as Jerusalem.

The last group that traveled from north India to Israel by surface route was in 1937. It was indeed my greatest privilege to visit the Holy Land in the year 2000 and to see the things where our Lord lived and walked.

In Jerusalem I saw the model of the second temple period, Zion Gate, Jewish quarter, Broad Wall, Western Wall,



*Above: Dr. Lall sits at Mount Nebo where Moses viewed the Promised Land (behind Dr. Lall). It 4000 feet above the Dead Sea, the lowest spot on earth.*

and Southern Wall excavations, the Dung Gate, and the Mount of Olives where the Lord was ascended to Heaven and will descend there according to the Bible. I visited Gethsemane, the Garden Tomb where our Lord was laid, Beer Sheba, Arad, the Dead Sea, Ein Gadi, the Sea of Galilee, including a brief stop at Yardenit, the mouth of River Jordan, Capernaum, and Ginosar to see the "Jesus Boat," Caesarea Philippi, and viewed Mount Hermon (one of the traditional sites of the Transfiguration), Nazareth, the hometown of Jesus, and Bethlehem.

I crossed from Israel to Jordan at the Allenby Bridge, visiting Jerash and the Triumphal Arch. We toured Amman and the Christian town of Madaba, traveled to Mount Nebo where Moses viewed the Promised Land, and continued to the lowest spot on Earth, the Dead Sea. We traveled through the desert highway south to Petra, after a short horse ride, then we left for Aqaba port and thence by ferry to Nuweiba. We stopped overnight at St. Catherine's, Sinai, climbed to Mount Sinai to the site Moses stood and the Hill where God came down to address Moses. I watched the sunrise at Nebi Musa, then traveled by land to Cairo, the capital of Egypt, and toured the Pyramids and the Sphinx.

The history of Jerusalem goes back 4000 years to Melchizedek, (Genesis 14:17-20). It is mentioned well over 1000 times under its various names. Often destroyed, it has risen from its ashes to continue its astonishing world influence. It was there Christ was crucified and resurrected, and the Holy Spirit descended to inaugurate the age of the Church.

Israel is the most prominent theme of the Bible, taking up four-fifths of its pages. Only this people, out of all the nations, had its history written in advance (Deuteronomy 28, 30). They are remarkable for their antiquity, their influence, and their preservation during centuries of persecution.

Descended from Abraham through Isaac and Jacob, Israel was chosen by God to reveal Him, to produce the Bible, and bring the Savior to men. After being given Palestine by divine decree (Genesis 15:7), they occupied it for hundreds of years, then were taken captive, (Jeremiah 25:11), and eventually were scattered over the face of the earth (Luke 21:24).

During the present age, when the nation Israel has been set aside for rejecting Christ (Romans 11:5), individual Jews are being saved as God gathers out a people for His name from all mankind (Acts 15:14-17). ❖



## Foreign Missions Telethon

**T**he Telethon is extremely important because it accounts for approximately 34% of the yearly Foreign Missions budget. This is a very significant amount of money. Without this infusion of funds in March it would make it very, very difficult to continue the work throughout the year.

Please join the Board in daily prayer for this year's Telethon. Let's believe together for the greatest Telethon in our history.

Thank you for your prayers and gifts. ❖

### Short-Term Teams 2002

All short-term teams are full for 2001, so make plans now to join a team in 2002.

April 13-28    *Philippines*  
June 15-23    *Mexico*  
July 13-21    *Mexico*  
June 15-23    *Mexico*  
August 3-11    *Mexico (Camp Morelos)*

Contact the Board of Foreign Missions for information and to reserve your place on the team.

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

**A**lthough the word "missions" or "foreign missions" do not appear in the Bible, a vast revelation is given to the theme of missionary work. The word "evangelist" and the word "witness" come closest in meaning to the subject followed by the disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, including St. Paul. Both the Old Testament and the New Testament contain relevant references to the divine purpose of having God's Word proclaimed. Missionary activity in the words of Saint Paul ... "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the Gospel" (1 Corinthians 9:16), is of primary importance. It is the secret of blessing upon the local congregation. Missionaries are to be helped by prayer (2 Corinthians 1:11), and supported by the home churches (1 Corinthians 16:1) as workers together with God, (2 Corinthians 6:1).

Do we realize that we might have



## Church Anniversary

*by Beth Dancil*

**T**he Agape Free Will Baptist Church in Berangay Inagawan Puerto Princesa City, recently celebrated our seventeenth anniversary.

We were blessed by the message of the Rev. Antonio Samones Jr., concerning thanksgiving from the book of Psalms. The bretheren wished our best to Rev. Samones and his wife, Ma'am Loida, with her two children, Jom-Jom and baby, as they joined us on this memorable occasion. We had parlor games, Bible games, and special numbers and fellowship.

Serving in this place is not an easy task. Please pray for the Dancil family and the children because this is the only denomination that continues to go forth in service. Some have failed because of the many trials and persecution they encountered.

We always praise the Lord! Even with many trials, we are still here serving Him. Our prayer is to see people come to God for repentance and continue to serve Him. ❖

## The Foreign Missions

been pagans, living in the spiritual darkness and superstition, were it not for Saint Thomas, who came to India, and the early Christian missionaries traveling to Europe? There were others who went to Syria, Arabia, and so on. Wouldn't we think that we, above every people, ought to believe in missions? Let us think of what our condition might have been today if missionaries had not brought Christ to us. We see Paul and Barnabas, the first foreign missionaries, starting westward from Antioch (Acts 13:2-3). The greatest enterprise on the surface of this world is Foreign Missions, and this is the very start of this great movement after the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What part are we playing in God's plan for the world? God's plan for the world is now carried on through His Church, as we are indwelt with the Holy Spirit on a day-to-day basis. The

task of world evangelism and spiritual revolution has been committed to all of us who know Him.

The challenge given by Christ to His followers, leading to the most comprehensive commission as in Acts 26:16-18, has sparked missionary activity all over the world ever since the present age began. Our Lord's last words recorded in the Bible are undoubtedly the most famous missionary test. This is a command to bear witness, in the power of the Holy Spirit, unto the uttermost part of the earth.

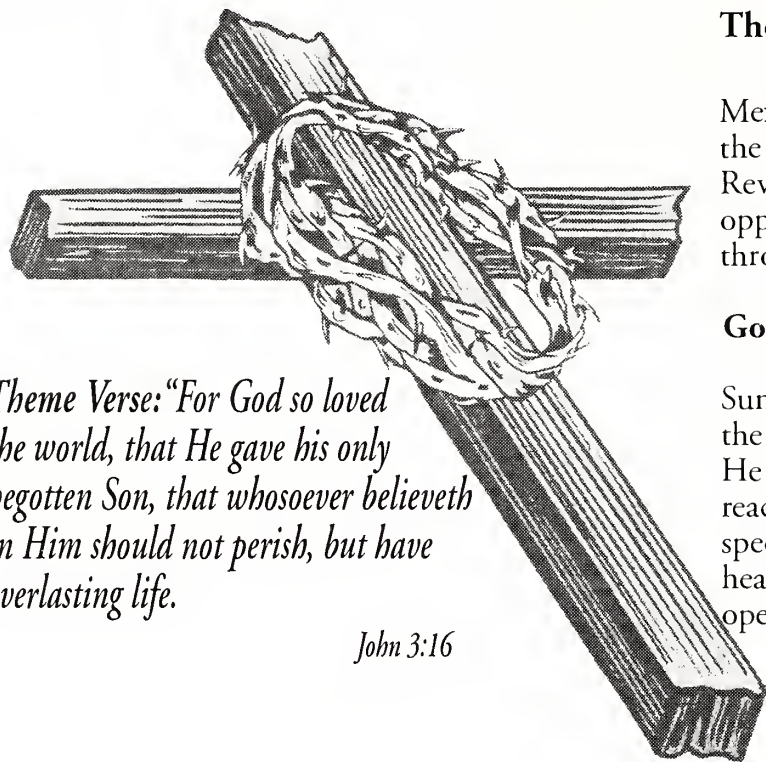
It desperately grieves my heart to see that the churches are in deep slumber all over the world, inasmuch as that declension has set in the Foreign Mission program in utter negation to His "Great Commission," and I do apprehend fear as to where we shall stand on the day of Judgement in the prevailing situation. ❖



# Foreign Missions Annual Telethon

**Sunday, March 25, 2001**

**Dial (252) 746-4963 between 1:30 & 5:30 PM**



*Theme Verse: "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

*John 3:16*

**Theme: "Love Has a Price Tag."**

Dear Lord, Help us reach the Philippines, Mexico, Nepal, India, Bulgaria and the nations of the earth. The Telethon and Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions gives us the opportunity to remember the nations of the earth through prayer and giving.

**Goal 2001: \$190,000**

A total of \$190,000 in gifts on Telethon Sunday. This goal can easily be reached, if we ask the Lord to help us love the peoples of the earth as He loved and give of ourselves and our means to reach them. Pray daily for this goal. Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30 PM. God hears our prayer and sees our giving and blesses us openly.

## **Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions March 25, 2001**

**Prayer Goal March 25:** All Churches joining together in united prayer during the Morning Worship Hour in one accord for revival. Let us pray!

*Prayer for others is a true expression of love that refreshes our souls!*



**Board of Foreign Missions, OFWB International  
Post Office Box 39 • Ayden, NC 28513 • (252) 746-4963**



## Cambodian Mission Church, Moreno Valley, California

by the Rev. Al Markuson, Director

**B**efore dawn on Sunday morning February 20, 2000, a strong jolt was felt in Moreno Valley, California. A small 4.0 earthquake (no damage) had simply awakened us to what would be a wonderful Lord's Day.

Excitement grew as we anticipated joining our brethren in worship at the Lao/Cambodian Original Free Will Baptist Mission Church. Our mission team: the Revs. Lewis Forsythe, Everette Harper, Graham Lane, and I were greeted warmly as we arrived.

Soon the service began with Pastor Kitti's wife, Betty, giving a welcome to all. She then led us in a time of singing several songs and worship choruses. Our voices blended in praise. Together we acknowledged our wonderful Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. I was then asked to share with the church. Greetings and the prayers from Original Free Will Baptists were extended to the church. A challenge was then presented for their church to become a Lighthouse of Prayer (Praying, Caring, and Sharing Christ with every person).

We then entered a time of worship with special songs and music. The congregation sang. The youth sang. The Revs. Graham Lane and Everette Harper joined in singing with the youth.

Just prior to the morning sermons by the Revs. Graham Lane and Lewis Forsythe, a trio from the Mission team sang "Amazing Grace." The Rev. Everette Harper closed our remarks by singing his new song "Be A Lighthouse."

Our time of worship was filled with God's word and the witness of the Holy Spirit within the lives of the people of God at the Cambodian Original Free Will Baptist Mission Church in Moreno Valley, California.

Original Free Will Baptist minister



*Above: Director/Pastor Kitti Rojratanakiat and his wife Betty.*

*Above: Worship group at Cambodian Mission in Moreno Valley, CA. Center: Front row—Lao Cambodian Church Leaders, Back row—Home Missions Team: The Revs. Lewis Forsythe, Graham Lane, Everette Harper, and Al Markuson.*

and Home Missionary Director, the Rev. Kitti Rojratanakiat concluded the service by stating, "We need those from far away (North Carolina) to come help us learn how to shine His Light."

Pray for our missionary family, Kitti and Betty Rojratanakiat, as they serve in this multi-ethnic and multi-cultural setting in California.

If you are interested in being a part of our mission effort or a short-term team, please contact Home Missions and Evangelism at (252) 746-4963 or write P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. ❖



## Project Kids Kare a Success at Pine Level



**T**he High School-College Class of Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church, Pine Level, NC, participated in the Harvest Connection's Project Kids Kare program this past holiday season. These young people worked on the shoeboxes for about a month, collecting goodies to spread Christmas cheer. With several boxes from other church members, 28 boxes were col-

lected this year! For a first time effort, we were thrilled with the end results. We are anxious to learn more about Project Kids Kare in an upcoming visit from the Rev. Graham Lane. We are sure that our 2001 box collection will be an even greater success.

For more information on Project Kids Kare contact Home Missions and Evangelism at (252) 746-4963 or write to P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. ❖

*Left: Donald Coats and Amy Morgan, Pine Level Church. Pictured above: (L-R) Top Row — Jeremy Crocker, Chad Summerlin, LeeAnna Strickland, Kaitlin Olive, Ashtley Coates, Jordan Coates, Matthew Coates, Daniel Oliver, Front Row — Stuart Shearin, John Thompson, Kyle Edwards, Parker Oliver, Amber Pittman, Sarah Olive, Melissa Fitzgerald, and Jenna Hinnant. (Not Pictured: Ryan Bisesi, Mitchell Peedin, Teachers: Chris & Amy Morgan)*

## New Missionary Family

**T**he Rev. James Corbett and his wife, Susan, are our newest Home Missionary couple. James is a member of the Cape Fear Conference and had been serving as interim at Covenant Original Free Will Baptist Mission in Hope Mills. Effective January 1, 2001, he began serving on a full-time basis as a missionary Director/Pastor for the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism. His focus will be Covenant Mission/Church and the research and development of a new church plant. Pray for this fine couple as they serve Original Free Will Baptists in Home Front Missions. ❖



*Above: Rev. James Corbett and wife Susan.*

## Churches & Ministers Available

*NOTE: This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary*

*information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)*

**Piney Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church**, Albertson, NC, is seeking a pastor. Applicants may contact:

Judy Terry                      John Herring  
(252) 523-9501 or (252) 566-4282

**Mount Zion Original Free Will Baptist Church** in Pamlico County has an opening for a pastor. We are located two miles from Camp Vandemere. For further information, please contact:

Judy Thaenum                      or Keith Cowell  
(252) 745-3687                      (252) 745-3017  
(252) 745-3621

**Youth Minister Wanted:** Kenly Original Free Will Baptist Church is seeking a youth minister. Anyone interested in this position may contact:

Lois Kennedy  
462 Bunn Road  
Kenly, NC 27542  
(919) 284-4113 ❖



## "Change For Children 2001"

We begin our fifth year of the "Change For Children" campaign. Our previous four years have been a huge success, thanks to you and many Free Will Baptists who saved their change for the children. The "Change For Children" campaign has increased awareness of our child care ministry and generated financial support for crucial months during the summer.

This year, we would again like to encourage our churches to begin the month of May by inviting everyone to save their change. In April, your church will receive information, collection bags, and bulletin inserts.

We request that you:

- Pray for the Children's Home ministry.
- Encourage each family in your church to save their change during Children's Home month. We will provide change bags for everyone.
- Designate a Sunday in May as Children's Home Sunday.
- Support the Children's Home in this campaign.

This opportunity will:

- Encourage families to work together collecting their change.
- Provide youth and new members the opportunity to learn about the Children's Home.
- Increase awareness of your child care ministry.
- Increase financial support from churches.

Please keep our ministry in your prayers as we continue to serve more children and families. The support you give us makes a difference in the lives of children. Thank you for caring and sharing. ❖



A special "thank you" to the members of Howell Swamp Church, Walstonburg, NC, and the Rev. Tony Glass for providing each of our residents with a hot dog lunch and desserts in Heritage Hall on February 3. Residents were also given a "goody bag" of Valentine gifts. Donations were brought and members were given a tour of our campus. ❖



*Left: Members of Cabin Church, Beulaville, NC, visited our campus on January 20, bringing donations. Each member was given a tour of Smith Cottage.*



*Above: On January 6, members of Rock Springs Church, Bailey, NC, delivered donations sponsored and collected by the Disciples Class. The day was concluded with a tour of Heritage Hall and Smith Cottage.*

### CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Products                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Large Electric Fry Pans  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Care Items               | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encyclopedias (CD Rom)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Playstation Games ( <i>Jeopardy</i> , <i>Winnie The Pooh</i> , <i>Crash Bandicoot "CTR"</i> , <i>Ms. Pac Man</i> ) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet Cleaning Machine           | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Wooden Glider Swings   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Cart                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Charter Bus to Zoo (approx. \$1500.00)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Games ( <i>Bible Bingo</i> , <i>Girl Talk</i> , <i>Operation</i> , <i>Battleship</i> )                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upright Vacuum Cleaners           | <input type="checkbox"/> Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher Detergent              | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry Supplies   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Various Types of Cleaning Brushes | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning Supplies  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Dictionaries                | <input type="checkbox"/> Pole Lamps   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gym Bags                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Encarta 2001 CD Rom Encyclopedia   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Pencil Sharpeners        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tall Table Lamp                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desk Lamps                        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Electric Griddles           |   |



## Vivian Harrison Memorial Lecture

**T**he Tenth Annual Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Lecture, entitled *The Celtic Way: An Old Pattern of Evangelism for a New Century*, will be held Tuesday, April 10, in Rodgers Chapel, at Mount Olive College. Guest Lecturer is Dr. George G. Hunter, III, Dean, E. Stanley Jones School Of World Mission and Evangelism, Asbury Theological Seminary.

### Schedule of Events:

9:00 AM — Registration (\$10.00 per person, includes buffet luncheon)

9:30 AM — Lecture One: The Post-Modern Re-emergence of a "Celtic" Way of Doing Church

11:00 AM — Worship Service, Sermon by Dr. Hunter entitled, "The Leading Edge of Christianity's Good News"

12:00 NOON — Lunch Buffet (Lois K. Murphy Regional Center)

1:30 PM — Lecture Two: A Celtic Approach to Reaching People

### About the Harrison Lecturer

George Hunter was a fish out of water the summer of '62. As a young seminary student, he spent eight weeks sharing his faith with dozens of "Muscle Beach" surfers, beatniks, and body builders. They thought he was from another planet. In a way, he was. Stained-glass church jargon made little sense to these folks. That experience set Hunter on a lifetime quest that has placed him among the world's leading authorities on communicating the Gospel to secular people. Today, Dr. Hunter is the Dean of Asbury Seminary's E. Stanley Jones School of World Mission and Evangelism, a position he has held since the school was launched in 1983. A coveted speaker, Dr. Hunter has led or addressed seminars for more than 30 denominations in 14 different countries. He has authored eight successful books, including *How To Reach Secular People*

(Abingdon, 1999), *Church for the Unchurched* (Abingdon, 1996), and *The Celtic Way* (Abingdon, 1999).

Dr. Hunter has served the United Methodist Church in a variety of ways, ranging from pastor to executive for the Board of Discipleship's section on Evangelism, a role in which he oversaw the evangelistic program for the denomination's 38,000 churches. He is the co-founder of the North American Society for Church Growth and founder of The Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education. He is married to the former Ella Fay Price and has three children: Gill, Monica, and Donald.

### About the Vivian B. Harrison Lecture

The Vivian B. Harrison Lecture was established by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison in memory of his late wife. The purpose of the lecture is to provide a medium for continuing education for the ministers and laypersons of North Carolina.

Mrs. Harrison was a graduate of Mount Olive College and Barton College, where she earned a B. S. degree in elementary education. She taught public school in North Carolina for 17 years before retiring in 1986 due to illness. She was a member of Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County and the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Beamon and the late Mr. Charlie T. Beamon of Walstonburg, North Carolina.

The Rev. Frank Harrison is a graduate of Mount Olive College, Barton College, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has completed two years of postgraduate studies in pastoral care and counseling at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. Mr. Harrison has served as Campus Minister at Mount Olive College since 1971 and teaches courses in practical theology.

Please make reservations for the lunch buffet by contacting Dr. David Hines at the College through telephone (919) 658-2502 (leave message) or through e-mail at [dhines@exchange.moc.edu](mailto:dhines@exchange.moc.edu).

Funding for this event is provided by the Vivian Harrison and Barrow Endowed Funds. ♦

## MOC UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mount Olive College at the Research Triangle Park** will begin a Criminal Justice for Professionals accelerated program on Wednesday, March 7, 2001 and a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Thursday, March 29, 2001. For more information about the CJP program, contact Mike Stephens, program representative, at 1(888) 258-5188, or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu). For more information about the MOD program, contact Carmela Cohen, Program Representative, at 1 (888) 258-5188 or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

**Mount Olive College at New Bern** will begin a Management and Organizational Development accelerated program on Thursday, March 8, 2001. For more information, contact Beth Bowes, program representative, at 1(800) 868-8479, or visit our web site at [www.mountolivecollege.edu](http://www.mountolivecollege.edu).

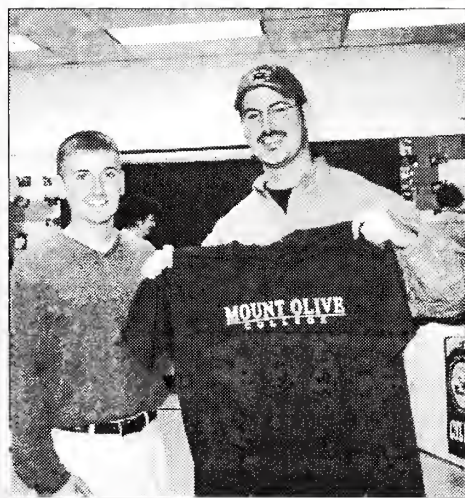
**Alumni Family Day Sunday, April 1, 2001**, beginning at 10:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. The day of fun will include a worship service, a buffet lunch, MOC's baseball team vs. St. Andrews College, the Lady Trojans vs. Queens College, and dinner. For more information, contact Dianne Riley, Director of Alumni Relations, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3009.

**Vivian B. Harrison Lecture Tuesday, April 10, 2001**, at 9:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. The public is invited to attend and there is a \$10.00 registration fee that includes a buffet luncheon. For more information, contact the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3082. ♦





*Left: Half-time of the women's basketball game, youth participated in a softball throw. Winners are L to R: Antonio Brown, St. James Baptist Church, Wayne County; Ryne Woodard, Rains Crossroads Church, Johnston County; Tim Woodard, Director of Admissions; Tiffany Ward, Verona Church, Onslow County; and Erica Johnson, Hugo Church, Lenoir County.*



*Top: Winner of the free-throw event at half-time of the men's game. Matt Blackman of Rock Springs Church, Nash County, is pictured with Brad Massey, Admissions Counselor and Tim Woodard, Director of Admissions. Center: Pine Level Church, Johnston County, received a certificate for having the most members (67) to attend the game. Bottom: John R. Harris of West-side Church, Lenoir County, won the free-throw contest for youth leaders. Left is Brad Massey, Admissions Counselor.*

## 25 Churches Attend Church Night

**T**he Admissions Office at Mount Olive College sponsored the seventeenth annual Free Will Baptist Church Night on Saturday, February 3, in College Hall. Over 320 Free Will Baptist members from 25 churches were in attendance.

Free Will Baptist church groups enjoyed the night of fellowship with others in the denomination while cheering for the women and men's basketball teams. A hospitality room was open with pictures of previous church nights, admissions information, and refreshments. Mrs. Dianne Riley, director of alumni affairs, had an alumni table set up with alumni items.

"I was excited to see all the Free Will Baptist churches cheering for our teams at Church Night," said Tim Woodard, director of admissions. ❖

## Alumni—Mount Olive College is Coming ...

**A**lumni, Mount Olive College is coming to your town! Join with other alumni in your area. Renew old friendships, share your Mount Olive College story with prospective students and parents. Meet fellow alumni and experience Mount Olive College 2001.

**Beaufort — Monday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m.**

The Depot Meeting Room, (Corner of Pollock and Broad, Beaufort). R.S.V.P. to Sheri S. Noonan (252) 223-4167.

**Clinton — Monday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.**

Dessert Pizza Party at Pizza Inn (1163 Sunset Ave. Hwy. 24, Clinton). R.S.V.P. to Carolyn F. Jernigan (910) 567-6387.

**Jacksonville — Monday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

Jacksonville High School Library (1021 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville). R.S.V.P. to Doug & Sandra Davis at (910) 346-5471.

**New Bern — Monday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.**

New Bern Area Chamber of Commerce, 316 S. Front Street, use rear entrance parking. R.S.V.P. to Melissa M. Barnett at (252) 633-6817.

Come, you'll be glad you did! Invite or bring a student that you would like to see at your alma mater. Spouses and friends are welcome. A one hour program is planned. Fellowship time is unlimited. ❖



## Christianity, the Law, and the Ultimate Crisis of Life

**M**ount Olive College and the Barrow Lecture Series presents Christianity, the Law, and the Ultimate Crisis of Life: Perspectives On Aging, Sorrow, Fatal Illness, Health Care, And Death, Thursday, March 22, 9:45 AM - 2:00 PM, in the Hennessee Room of Murphy Regional Center, Mount Olive College.

### The Program...

The Rev. Harmon Smith, an internationally recognized teacher of Christian Ethics, will examine such moral issues as the right to die with dignity and management of the manner and time of human dying and death. Those in attendance will learn more about advance directives, living wills, health care power of attorney, and the portable DNR (all of which the patient, family, and pastors will be asked about by health care professionals and must make a decision).

The Rev. James Craven will discuss those legal requirements of the State of North Carolina which will affect how one dies, the legal definition of death (which will determine withdrawal of life-support systems), when and why autopsies may be required, and the disposition of one's estate. Concrete advice

will be given about how one may be in control and direct such events in advance, rather than leaving one's fate and finances (and those of one's heirs) to the rigid bureaucracy of the State.

The Rev. Bruce Dudley will guide us through the maze of difficult choices and uncertainties which will confront us as we seek long-term care for family members who are becoming increasingly disabled both in body and in mind. How does one select a "quality" location, what will be the range of services provided, and what "rights" will one have?

A buffet lunch will be served at a cost of \$10.00.

### The Presenters

**Harmon L. Smith** is a Clergyman and Professor of Moral Theology and Professor of Community and Family Medicine, Duke University (retired). He has been Visiting Professor at many institutions including the University of Edinburgh (Scotland) and the University of Windsor (Canada). He has served as Fellow of Lilly Foundation and the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation (among many others). He has also served on many Policy Advisory Boards for the National Institute of Health, and numer-

ous Ethics Advisory Committees, and Safety Monitoring Boards. He is the author of more than one hundred learned articles and reviews in professional journals and six books.

**James Craven** is a graduate of Duke Divinity School (ordained) and of Duke University Law School. He practices law in Durham and has regularly lectured in courses that are designed to acquaint Clergy and Laity with the law of North Carolina as it pertains to the fatally ill and the bereaved.

**The Rev. Bruce Dudley** is a graduate of Mount Olive College, Atlantic Christian College (now Barton), and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is currently director of the Retirement Homes Ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He was ordained to the ministry in 1960 and has served as pastor and in several positions of leadership in the Original Free Will Baptist Church.

To make a reservation for the lunch buffet, please contact Mrs. Kay Fail, office of Student Development at (919) 658-2502, or by e-mail at [kfail@exchange.moc.edu](mailto:kfail@exchange.moc.edu). This program is provided by The Barrow Family Endowed Fund for Christian Ministries. ❖

## Help Mount Olive College Serve You

**T**he descendents of John Owen and Ida Barrow have established a fund for Christian Ministries at Mount Olive College known as the Barrow Family Endowment Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to advance the Christian Faith, glorify God, further the education of ministers of the Gospel, promote the development of Christian lay leaders, and to enrich individual lives through Christian service.

Some of the plans to achieve these goals include courses of study, conferences, workshops, seminars, and other programs, both on-campus and in local churches. To successfully meet the needs of the Church, the College needs

thoughtful input from ministers and lay people. The Committee is seeking suggestions on resources needed to meet the needs of ministers, denominational and local leaders of all types, educators, musicians, counselors, Christians who serve the community in various capacities, families, and individuals of all ages.

To help identify these needs and make suggestions on how they can be implemented, area meetings are being held during the month of March. Pastors, deacons, youth leaders, church officers, Sunday School teachers and church leaders can contribute significantly. To assist in making preparations, persons planning to attend are requested to ad-

vised Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support, of the number who will be attending from each church and the meeting they plan to attend.

(Phone: (919) 658-2502 or 1-800-653-0854; Fax: (919) 658-7180; e-mail: [jfackiss@exchange.moc.edu](mailto:jfackiss@exchange.moc.edu)).

- **Tuesday, March 6, 2001** - 7:30 PM, First Church, Greenville (Pitt County)
- **Thursday, March 8, 2001** - 7:30 PM, Stoney Creek Church (Fellowship Hall) Goldsboro (Wayne County)
- **Tuesday, March 20, 2001** - 7:30 PM, St. Mary's Church, New Bern (Craven County)
- **Thursday, March 29, 2001** - 7:30 PM, Marsh Swamp Church, Sims (Wilson County) ❖



## Did You Know?

Cragmont had its beginnings in the mid 1940s as a Free Will Baptist ministry through four conventions: The Sunday School Convention, The Free Will Baptist League Convention, The State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, and the North Carolina State Convention of Churches.

Currently, the Convention is called "The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists," and the Sunday School Convention no longer exists as a Convention. It is now a ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

In the early years of Cragmont, the four conventions were the governing bodies of Cragmont. Each Convention selected three members to the Cragmont board of directors. Now, since the Sunday School is a ministry of the Convention, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists selects six members to the board of directors of Cragmont.

Another task that has fallen to some of the governing bodies is that of sponsoring weeks of youth conferences at Cragmont. The job of sponsorship includes choosing an individual to act as director of the week. Sponsorship also includes giving the director startup monies for the week to begin its operation.

The director chooses people to act as volunteer counselors and staff. From the

beginning, youth conferences have been run by volunteers. No one has received a salary. Currently, the weeks of youth conferences and their sponsoring bodies are as follows:

**Sunday School:** General Youth Conferences I & II

**League Convention:** Christian Cadet Conference

**Woman's Auxiliary Convention:** Youth Frontier Conferences YFA & AFC

**Carteret County Sunday School:** Young People's Bible Conference

**Cragmont:** Cragmont Youth Conference

Youth Frontier YFA is specifically designed for teens and Youth Frontier Conference AFC is designed for pre-teens. All other Conferences take all ages from about 9 - 16.

### Cragmont Makes Offer of Free Room and Meals

In conjunction with the Ministerial Association, Cragmont is making a special offer to all ministers who have never attended a Minister's Conference. Here are the conditions:

- You must not have ever attended a Cragmont Minister's Conference in the past.
- You must be an ordained or licensed minister.

- You must register through the Ministerial Association.

- This offer only covers room and meals at Cragmont.

- This offer does not cover the expenses of a spouse.

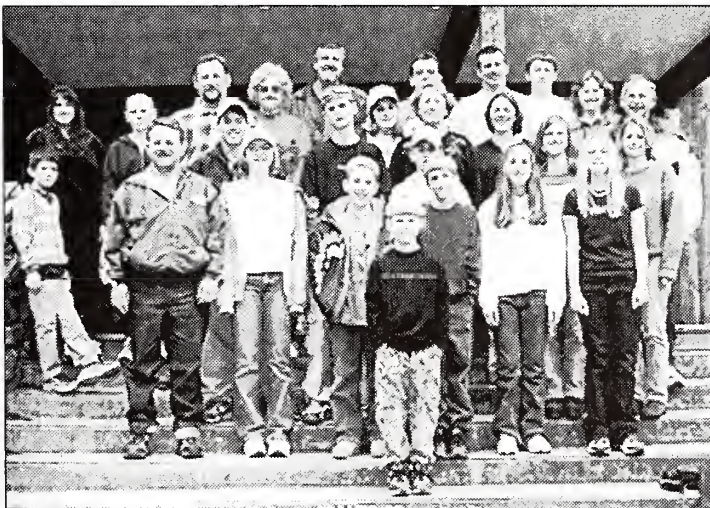
- This offer does not cover the Ministerial Association dues.

- This offer is based upon available space.

It is our hope that this offer will encourage ministers to become involved in the Ministerial Association and the ministry of Cragmont. On the registration form there will be a check box for you to indicate that you are taking advantage of this offer.

### Things Your Church Can Do For Cragmont Assembly:

- Encourage your youth to attend a summer youth Conference.
- Take a special Cragmont offering.
- Place Cragmont in your church budget.
- Plan a religious life retreat for your church at Cragmont Assembly.
- Pray for the Cragmont staff, camp directors and counselors.
- Pray that God would grant a revival to those attending conferences.
- Pray that God would grant safe travel to all. ❖



Above: Sound Side Original Free Will Baptist Church, Youth Group, January 12-15, Columbia, NC.



Above: St. Mary's Original Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, NC.



# 2001 Conferences

## Minister's Conference—May 21-24, 2001

Please return this form and your payment by May 10.

### To All Ministers of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists:

The Executive Committee of the Original Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association wishes to invite you to attend the Minister's Conference at Cragmont Assembly Monday through Thursday, May 21-24, 2001. This is our annual meeting, and we would like for you to attend. If you plan to attend, please fill out this pre-registration form and return it as soon as possible. The cost of pre-registration is \$35.00. This money will cover your membership in the Association and your picture for the week.

Please make all checks payable to Original Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association and mail this form and your check to:

Bryant Hines  
Post Office Box 266  
Cove City, NC 28523

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your building preference. Rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis! ☐ Main Building ☐ Motel ☐ Floyd House Dorm ☐ I will be staying off campus

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please indicate in the space below with whom you wish to room if you will be staying in the Main Building or the Motel.

☐ Check here if you will be eating supper at Cragmont on Monday night, May 21.

Please Note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the dining hall. ☐ Check here if your wife will be staying on campus.

If you wish to join the Ministerial Association this year but cannot attend our conference, you may join or renew your membership by sending \$30.00 membership dues to the above address.

Please be advised that all rooms at Cragmont will have a per room charge instead of an individual charge as we have had in the past.

## Registration Form, Cragmont Woman's Conferences

**June 4-9**

☐

Speaker: Jane C. Tripp

**July 30-August 4**

☐

Speaker: Jean Ackiss

Please check above conference attending.

Mail this registration form along with a \$20.00 deposit to:

Teresa M. Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

If, due to health reasons, you require downstairs accommodations, please check here ☐.

Please list the names of those with whom you would like to room:

If you do not plan to ride the bus, please check here ☐.

A balance of \$125.00 will be due upon arrival at Cragmont. A day trip will be planned. There will be afternoon trips into Black Mountain and Asheville. Prices of trips TBA. Please make your plans now to join us for one or both of these conferences.

**Remember:** The June Conference wishes to encourage participation of couples and of individual gentlemen, as well as our ladies. A limited number of private accommodations for couples are available on a first registered, first served basis.



# Registration Form Cragmont Woman's Conferences

*Morning Star*

**April 20-22, 2001**

Speaker: Cynthia Mills

Mail this registration form along with a \$20.00 deposit to:

Teresa M. Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

If, due to health reasons, you require downstairs accommodations, please check here ☐.

Please list the names of those with whom you would like to room:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A balance of \$30.00 will be due upon arrival at Cragmont.

**SUMMER**  
*Adventure*

*It's Time, It's Here, The Third Annual*  
**Cragmont**  
**Youth Conference**  
June 11 - 16, 2001

This Summer Adventure is designed for kids who have completed the third grade through high school. What's happenin' at this great week of camp? Just the same ole **'Great Stuff ... Old & New Friends ... Bible Study On A Young Person's Level... Creative Worship ... High Adventure Recreation ... Kickin' Music ... Praising God..And A Lot Of Just Plain Fun !**

The cost of this summer adventure is \$220 per camper which includes transportation, food and lodging at Cragmont, daily snacks, group picture, activity fee, T-shirt, and off-campus trips. Obviously, a great price and a great deal for a week that will never be forgotten!

Please complete the registration form and return it **No Later Than April 15** with a \$110 deposit. The \$110 balance will be due with the return of your forthcoming medical form.

Checks should be made payable to Cragmont Youth Conference. Please note: the \$110 deposit is non-refundable after May 15. Don't Wait! We can only accept 170 registrations for this week of camp. Make copies of this form for your entire youth group.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Completed (June 2001) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt Size (youth sizes) ☐ Med ☐ Lg ☐ X-Lg

(adult sizes) ☐ Sm ☐ Med ☐ Lg ☐ X-Lg ☐ XX-Lg

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

For further information call:

Mail your registration(s) and Deposit(s) to:

**Bryant Hines**  
252-638-3436 (W)  
252-633-2683 (H) Or  
**Craig Simmons**  
252-637-3485 (W)  
252-633-9838 (H)

**Cragmont Youth Conference**  
Bryant Hines, Jr.  
Post Office Box 266  
Cove City, NC 28523



## Pee Dee District Youth Installs Officers

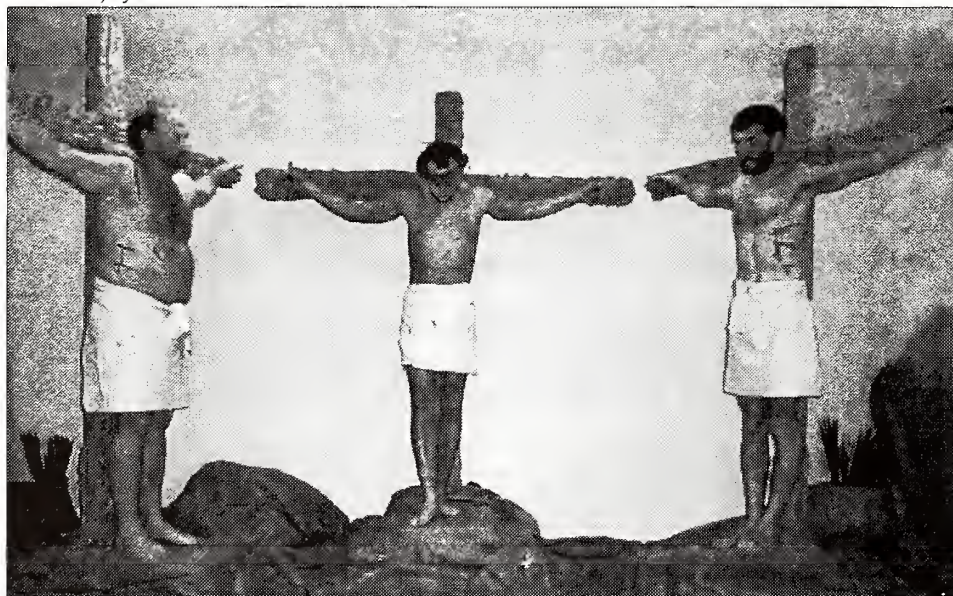
by Susie Fairfax

**O**n Monday night, January 14, 2001, the Youth Fellowship Auxiliary of the Pee Dee District installed its officers for the year 2001. Faye Bryant, District Youth Director, served as installing officer. As each officer was charged, Faye presented them with a keepsake piece of glass candy representing the sweetness of serving the Lord. The installation ended with a dedication prayer by the pastors, youth leaders, and new officers.

The Youth Rally was hosted by Oak Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church. Before the business of the meeting, some of the youth from Oak Grove provided special singing. After the meeting was adjourned, refreshments and fellowship were enjoyed. ❖



*New officers from left to right: Scott Dallas, Benevolence; Lee Hinson, Missions; Heather McPherson, Recording Secretary; Charles Godwin, President; April McPherson, Reporter; Chris Singletary, Vice President; Hope McPherson, Denominational Enterprises; Corresponding Secretary, Emily Bryant; and Brittany Cartrette, Treasurer.*



## White Oak Grove Presents Easter Drama

**W**hite Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, 5744 Kennedy Home Road, La Grange, NC, invites everyone to come to their Easter drama entitled, "They Called His Name Jesus."

The Drama will be presented on April

7-8, at 7:00 p.m. The drama starts with the birth of Jesus and goes through His Resurrection. Come and be blessed. If you have any questions, contact Linda Herring, at (252) 566-9704. ❖



## McLawhorn Moves to Editorial

**D**ixie McLawhorn became a part of the editorial staff of the Free Will Baptist Press as an Editorial Assistant in January. She worked in the Ayden Bible and Bookstore since September 1999. She is eager to continue working to spread the Good News of God's plan of salvation. Dixie resides in the Clayroot community, near Greenville, NC, with her husband, Lonnie and their son, Bruce. She is an active member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church. ❖



## Woman's Auxiliary Installs Officers

Officers of the Deep Run Original Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary were installed for the year 2001 at their annual Christmas Party held in the church fellowship building, December 18, 2000. Mrs. Happy Taylor, Eastern District Recording Secretary and member of Smith's New Home Church, was in charge of the installation service. Each officer was reminded of the challenge needed to complete their job for the auxiliary and each was given the duties and responsibilities of her office.

Pictured from left to right, Row 1: Shirley Griffin, Benevolence; Happy Taylor, Installation Leader; Arlene Hardison, Benevolence/Children's Home Chairman; Claudine Kennedy, Treasurer; Marie Smith, Benevolence, and Hazel Smith, President. Row 2: Dot



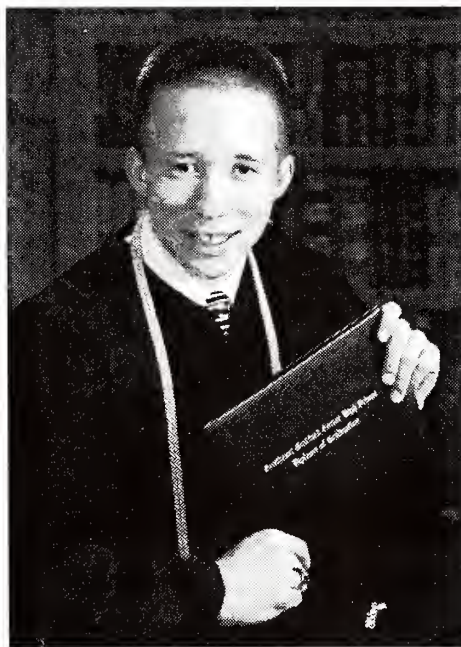
Dawson, Benevolence; Delaina Barwick, Program Prayer Chairman; Donna Smith, Missions Chairman; Mary Catherine Grady, Christian Education Chairman; Caroline Kennedy, Vice President; and Linda Jenkins, Secretary.

(Not Pictured: Pam Braxton, Study Course Chairman; Jo Ellen Sloan, Youth Chairman.) The following will be leaders in our youth program: Julie Hill, Cherubs; Debbie Miller, AFC; Caroline Kennedy and Becky Benson, YFA. ❖

## Student Receives Scholarship

Dale Belvin, who has recently been ordained in the Piedmont Conference, was named the first recipient of the Piedmont Conference College Scholarship. Dale received a \$500.00 scholarship in which he also, along with members of the ordaining council, helped to establish.

Dale is a freshman at Mount Olive College, where he majors in Religion. He graduated from Southeast High School in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he was a member of the National Honor Society, First Priority, and participated in NJROTC for four years and left the Corp when he graduated as a Lieutenant JG. Among other scholarships that he received were the Honors Scholarship from Mount Olive College, Free



Will Baptist Tuition Grant, and the North Carolina Tuition Grant. He is a member of Friendly Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina, where the Rev. Roger Motsinger is the pastor.

Congratulations Dale on a job well done! ❖



## Press Operator Hired

Dan Langley joined the staff of the Free Will Baptist Press as a press operator in January. He resides in Snow Hill, NC, where he graduated from Greene Central High School. Dan graduated from Pitt Community College in 1995 with a two-year degree in Pre-Liberal Arts. He also attended East Carolina University. Dan is engaged to Heather Benson of Ayden. ❖



## Youth Group Visits Children's Home

by Kim Sawrey, 8th grader and member of  
Howell Swamp Church

On February 3, 2001, the youth group from Howell Swamp Original Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, NC, visited the Children's Home in Middlesex, NC. Once we arrived, we had a weenie roast with the girls and got to know each other. We found out that there were many reasons for the girls being sent to the home. Most were sent because of abuse from their parents, whether it was drugs or physical abuse or disciplinary problems.

Once we finished eating and were acquainted, one of the girls gave us a tour of the Central Cottage, which is the largest of all the cottages. In the cottage, there is a bedroom for each of the girls and there are also two bathrooms. There is a spacious kitchen with a computer and all the necessities. There is a laundry room and a medicine closet. The living room has a TV and VCR and many games. The cottage mainly consisted of these things.

When the girls come home from school, they must finish all of their homework and then they must finish their chores before they are allowed to go outside or go into the living room and watch TV. In the summer they go to the swimming pool. There is also a gymnasium on the premises; it is very large with a scoreboard and everything else. While we were there, we talked about putting together our own ball team from our church and then go back and play against the girls there. Some of the girls have jobs on the weekends to make some extra money.

Overall, it was a very nice experience.



Above: Howell Swamp Youth Group on the front porch of the cottage at the Children's Home.



Above: Parents and children prepare goody bags for the girls at the Children's Home.

I had a lot of fun meeting new people and learning what it was like to live at the Home. I feel sorry for the girls because they can't live at home with their parents. I had a nice time. ❖

## Dramatist Back For Encore Presentation

Christian dramatist Doug Whitley will be returning to Beulaville Free Will Baptist Church in March for a weekend revival. Whitley, who performed for their fall revival, will once again delight and bless the congregation by portraying the lives of some of the great preachers and Bible characters. "Our church responded so well to his messages and ministry that we decided to have him back for the spring," said Chris Singleton, pastor of the church.

The services will be March 16, 17, at 7:30 PM. There will be special music both nights, with His Voice, from Sandy Plains, appearing on Saturday evening. Whitley will also be with the church for Sunday morning worship at 11:00 AM on March 18. The congregation invites all to join them for these exciting services. ❖

## Layman's League "Spiritual Life Retreat"

State Layman's League prepares for biggest "Spiritual Life Retreat" on June 1, 2001, at Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, N. C.

This year's speakers are: The Revs. Chuck Owens of Harrells Chapel, Frank Harrison of Mt. Olive College, and Ray Conner, Holly Springs Church, Newport.

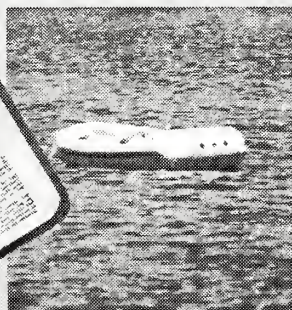
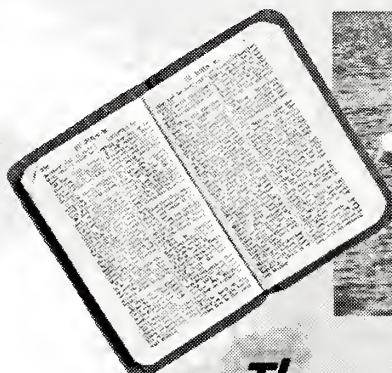
Full details will be in next month's issue of *The Free Will Baptist*. Start preparing now. For early booking call: Harold Humbles, (252) 746-4140 or Elmer Harrell (252) 747-2894. There will be more prizes this year than ever before. ❖

## Note of Thanks

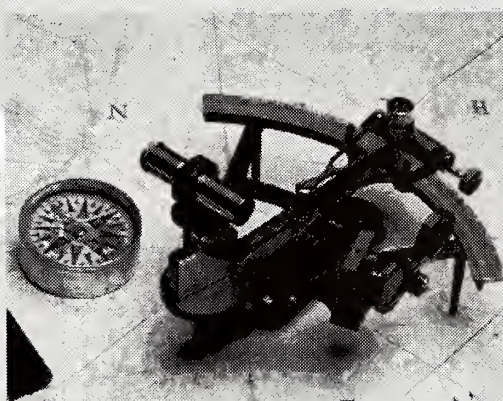
"I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and deep appreciation for all the phone calls, cards, and especially the prayers, during my recent surgery and period of recovery. My doctors say that I am doing fine and should return to work about the last of February."—The Rev. David C. Hansley, General Administrator, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. ❖



# 2001 Youth Convention Original Free Will Baptists May 18-20, 2001



**Theme: Survivor**  
Theme Scripture: 1 John 5:5



## Public Speaking Topics:

- † Noah and the Ark, *Genesis* 6 – 9
- † Jonah and the Whale, *Jonah* 1:17 2:42
- † Daniel and the Lion's Den, *Daniel* 6:16 – 24
- † Jesus and His Resurrection, *Mark* 16, *Luke* 24, *John* 20
- † Paul shipwrecked, snake bites, long prison term, *Book of Acts*

## Woman's Auxiliary Convention Executive Committee Meets

On Saturday, January 20, 2001, the executive committee met at Mount Olive College. The meeting was called to order by Joan Little, State President.

After devotion and prayer, the minutes from the last meeting were read by Sandra Jones, Secretary. They were approved by the committee. The following reports were given: Corresponding Secretary, Mamie Dail; Christian Education, Dianne Riley; Missions, Teresa Grubbs; Youth, Martha Parsons; Study Courses, Deborah King; Program-Prayer, Becky Jo Sumner; Field Secretary, Jean Ackiss; Literature, Hilda Starling.

The State Convention of the Woman's Auxiliary will meet on Thursday, May 10, 2001 at the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church at Spivey's Corner. Registration will begin at 8:30. State officers will be available in the fellowship building to share information with the district and local officers.

A committee was nominated to make plans for the 75th Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention which will meet in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College hosted by the executive committee in May 2002.

The State Youth Convention will be held at Mount Olive College on May 18-20, 2001. Their project for the year is multimedia equipment.

It was noted that resource material and speakers for study courses could be found on pages 4 and 5 of the *Devotion* 2001. ♦

## Fifth Eastern Union to Meet

The Fifth Eastern Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention will meet at Core Point Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday morning, April 21, at 10:00 AM.

The Rev. Gordon Hart, pastor of British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church will bring the message. ♦



## Highlights From Powhatan

by Rita Otto Jones

In January, a group from Powhatan made the trip to Fayetteville to Haymount for the monthly Cape Fear District Youth Rally. The Program, presented by Harold Jones, showed us how our Christmas donations were already being used in the mission field. It was a blessing to all ages. We received the banner for overall runner up attendance.

The Mosby's Rangers Children of the Confederacy group had a meeting in the fellowship hall at Powhatan on January 13. The young people made valentines that will be delivered to the residents at the Veteran's Home in Fayetteville as a "thank you" for their service. Nikki Jones, Powhatan member, is the secretary for the small group, which meets about six times a year and encourages the study of history. President Jonathon Hicks shared a touching story with the group. At their November meeting,

fruit was collected and put in a basket for him to deliver to Mr. Dick St. John, a veteran whose health was failing and the doctors said had less than six months to live. When he went for the visit, Mr. St. John was so touched that a young person would come to visit and spend time with him and listen to his stories, that his daughter sent a special thank you card telling us how he had cried after Jonathon's visit. Sadly, he died only two days later, but at least he knew he had not been forgotten.

The Woman's Auxiliary awarded three life memberships in January. Presentations were made on January 14 to Sisters Margaret Blinson, Christine Hill, and Pearl Wood for their many years of dedicated service to the Lord at Powhatan. It was a surprise and all three were touched by the honor. Sister Margaret used to host one month a year,

back when meetings were held in private homes. Sister Christine said she had enjoyed serving in each office she had held over the years. Sister Pearl said she didn't realize just how much time she had spent serving over the years—she had just tried to help out where she felt needed. We are grateful to these women and others like them who volunteer their time and talents in the service of the King.

On January 20, another special lady was honored. The youth bell choir called forward Sister Martha Bogle, our pastor's wife, and sang "Happy Birthday" to her, thanking her for her special contributions at Powhatan.

Thank you from the Youth Group to Deacon Aubry Bunn and his wife Linda for hosting a meeting for the YFAs at their home on January 26. Plans for the coming year were made. ❖

## Renewed Vision Ministries Offers Scholarship And Week At Camp

Again this year, Renewed Vision Ministries is providing the opportunity for a young man or a young lady to be the recipient of one of four \$500.00 scholarships to help fund their education. The nominee should be a young person who has done exceedingly well in spite of their circumstances. Each nominee must be a senior in high school and must graduate in 2001. All nominees will be considered by the Board of Directors of Renewed Vision Ministries, and all nominee forms must be received by April 21, 2001. For a copy of the nomination form and additional information, you may phone 252-940-0491 or e-mail [rvministries@gotricounty.com](mailto:rvministries@gotricounty.com). You may write to: Renewed Vision Ministries, Inc. International, P.O. Box 2045, Washington, NC 27889.

In addition, Renewed Vision Ministries is also providing the opportunity

for four youth, (two boys and two girls) between the ages of 10 and 17 to spend a week at Christian camp. After nominees are received, the Board of Directors will select the winners. Two selections (a boy and a girl) will be made for each camp—Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, NC; Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, NC. Each nominee should be a young person who has achieved in spite of their circumstances. For copies of the nomination forms, contact the numbers or address given above. All nominee forms must be received by April 21, 2001.

In each of these awards, the person who makes a nomination, will be expected to tell why the nominee is worthy to receive a week at Camp.

The Founder/President of Renewed Vision Ministries is the Rev. Everette V. Harper. ❖

## Camp Vandemere Revival

Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, located at 2920 Gray Road in Chocowinity, NC, will have a Camp Vandemere Revival beginning Monday night, March 12, and running through Friday night, March 16. There will be a different speaker each night, and a different choir to sing each night.

The following have been scheduled:  
*Monday — The Rev. Ray Conner*  
*Tuesday — The Rev. Tommy Yopp*  
*Wednesday — The Rev. Harry Bryan and the choir from New Haven Church*  
*Thursday — The Rev. Buddy Sasser and the choir from New Bethlehem Church*  
*Friday — The Rev. Mike Scott and the choir from Juniper Chapel Church.*

Services will begin each night at 7:45. The pastor, the Rev. Owen Arthur, and the church family extend a special invitation to you to attend. The entire week's offering will go to Camp Vandemere. ❖

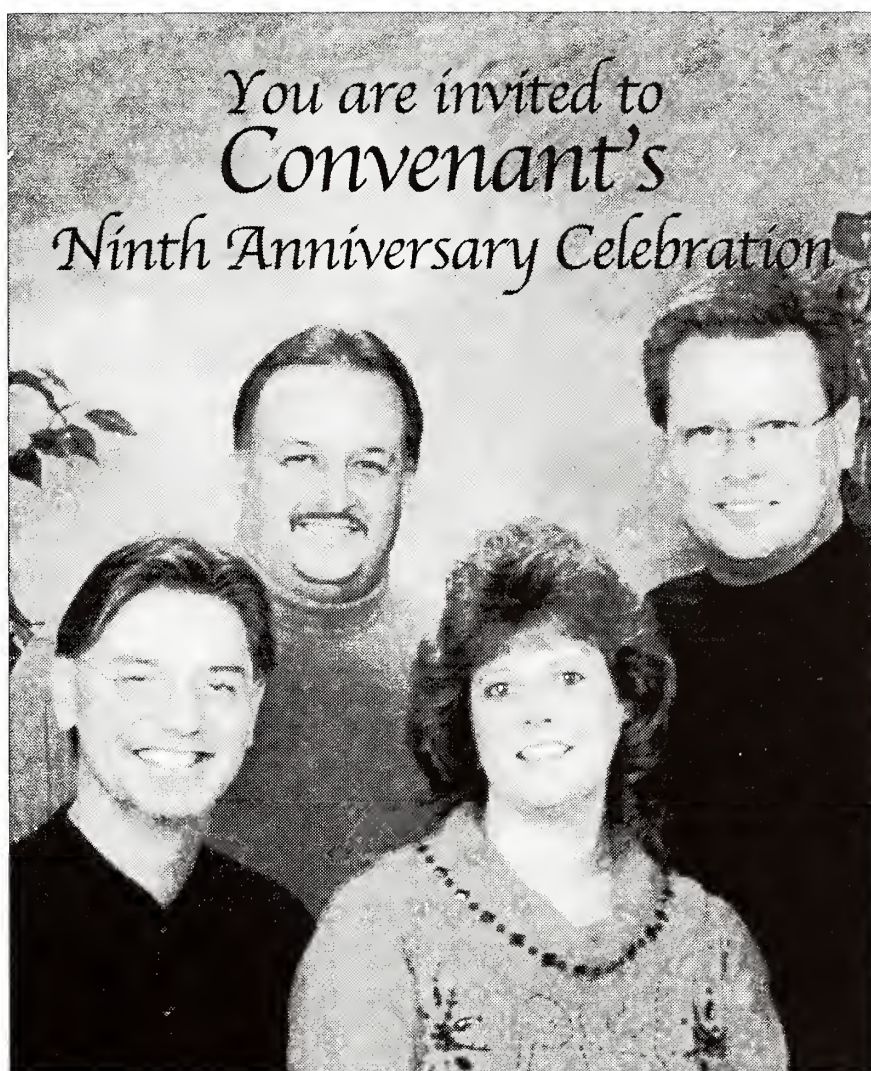


## Central District Woman's Auxiliary Conference

Little Creek Free Will Baptist Church  
March 24, 2001  
4 miles West of Ayden on NC 903

Theme: *"Dare to be a Jabez"*  
Scripture: 1 Chronicles 4:10

- 9:00 AM Registration  
9:30 AM Hymn 471, *The Way of the Cross Leads Home*  
Devotion: Evelyn Moore  
Welcome: Hagar Jackson  
Response: Judy Jones  
President's Greetings: Joan Little  
Report from Church Ministries: Rev. Bruce Dudley
- 10:30 AM Hymn, 43, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*  
Offering and Offertory  
Prayer: Helen Beamon  
Youth Report: Karen Ribeiro and Donna Ware
- 11:00 AM Break  
Chorus 590, *This is the Day*  
Life Membership: Judy Harris  
Presentation of Life Membership Award: Louise Hines  
Business  
Installation of Officers: Ginger Williams
- 11:50 AM Special Music: Donald Stokes  
Introduction to Speaker: Karen Ribeiro  
Message: Linda Hamilton
- 12:30 PM Hymn 462, *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*  
Benediction and Blessing: Frank Flowers  
Pianist: Wanda Forrest  
Organist: Teresa Aman  
Song Leader: Leah McGlohon



An Evening of Southern Gospel Music with:  
Covenant, The Four In Christ Quartet, The Second Edition Quartet, Keith Cayton, The Convention Quartet, Mark and Elaine Gaskins, and the Everington Trio.

### St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church

Corner of Fleet and Broad Streets  
New Bern, North Carolina

**Saturday, March 10, 2001 7:00 PM**

No Admission Charge!



## Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Conference

Sandy Plains Free Will Baptist Church  
Pink Hill, North Carolina

March 17, 2001

Theme: *"More Than Conquerors"*

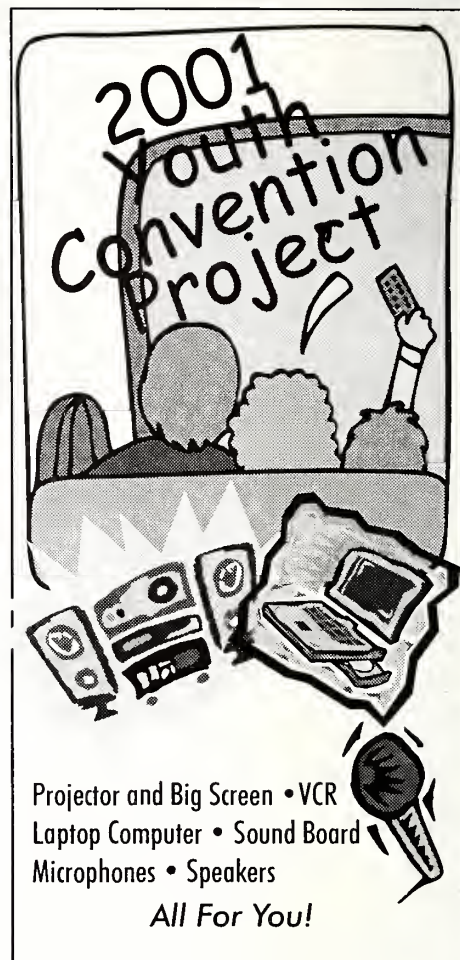
Scripture: *"Nay, in all things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us," (Romans 8:37)*

### Order of Service

- 9:30 AM Registration  
9:50 AM Music Medley: *Sandy Plains Church*  
10:00 AM Call to Order: *Angie Piner*  
Prayer for Convention  
Hymn 345, *"Blessed Assurance"*  
Welcome: *Deanna Baker*  
Response: *Wanda Costner*  
Scripture/Prayer: *Rachel Lowick*  
Special Music: *Sandy Plains Church*  
10:20 AM Life Award: *Committee*  
Business Session:  
Secretary's Report  
Annual Report  
Recognition of A-1 Auxiliaries: *Happy Taylor*  
Appointment of Committees  
Camp Vandemere Report: *Julia Ann Gaskins*  
Offering  
Report of Denominational Ministries  
11:10 AM Hymn: *"Just When I Need Him Most"*  
Worship Service: *Cheryl Wilson*  
Hymn 47 *"God Will Take Care of You"*  
12:05 PM Miscellaneous Business  
Treasurer's Report  
Committee Reports  
Installation of Officers: *Annie Ruth Parrish*  
12:30 PM Lunch Announcements  
Benediction: *Student Minister David Smith*  
Organist: *Teresa Aman*  
Song Leader: *Leah McGlohon*

### Fall Convention

Music Director: *Rebecca King*  
Pianist: *Pam Kennedy*  
Ushers: *Melinda Sumner, Dawn Smith*



## Eastern District Youth to Meet

The Eastern District Spring Youth Convention will meet on Saturday, March 10, 2001, at Whaley's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Richlands, NC. Registration is from 9 AM to 10 AM. The meeting will begin at 10 AM and last until midafternoon.

Mrs. Gracie Jones, Eastern District Youth Chairman writes: "We would like to extend to you an invitation to attend our convention. Our spring convention is when our youth have an opportunity to display their talents. If you can join us feel free to set up displays and pass out literature about your ministry."

We look forward to seeing you there. Please remember our youth and our Spring Youth convention in your prayers. ❖





Dr. Pepper Worthington

## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Edward O.  
Wilson

asks profound questions for our species: Homo sapiens. He asks: (1) What are some external goals for our biological nature? (2) What is fulfillment? (3) How may fulfillment be realized? Wilson is interested in a definition of human nature and his research leads him to peer into "the machinery of the mind" (4) in fascinating ways. His insistence upon integrating the natural sciences with the social sciences, humanities, and religion provides another dimension of insight for Original Free Will Baptists. As Christians in the new millennium, how can we relate our deepest religious beliefs to the scientific community?

### Aggression

Wilson asks: "Are human beings innately aggressive?" (99) Wilson declares yes and states: "Throughout history, warfare, representing only the most organized technique of aggression, has been endemic to every form of society, from hunter-gatherer bands to industrial states" (99). Wilson traces the instinct for aggression to the "hereditary predisposition" (100) rather than to the Calvinistic depravity.

To Wilson, aggression relates to seven categories: "the defense and conquest of territory, the assertion of dominance within well-organized groups, sexual aggression, acts of hostility by which weaning is terminated, aggression against prey, defensive counterattacks against predators, and moralistic and disciplinary aggression used to enforce the rules of society" (101-02).

Wilson believes "crowding in the environment" leads to aggression in order for a group to gain "control over necessities, ordinarily food or shelter" (103). When we realize the population of the earth was around three billion people in the 1960s and is now six billion people

Edward O. Wilson. *On Human Nature*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1978. Ninth Printing, 1995. 260 pages.

at the beginning of the new millennium, then 12 billion may exist by 2050 if the population doubles every 50 years. Will aggression be an important issue in this century? Will Christians need to address this concern? Indeed yes.

### Altruism

What is altruism? Wilson notes: "Generosity without hope of reciprocation is the rarest and most cherished of human behaviors" (149). Society seeks ways to reward such altruism. During wars, soldiers who throw themselves "on top of grenades to shield comrades" (149) were awarded Congressional Medals of Honor. Such altruism leads Wilson to differentiate between hard-core altruism and soft-core altruism. Wilson notes that hard-core altruism is "a set of responses relatively unaffected by social reward or punishment" (155). With soft-core altruism, an element of selfishness enters for the altruistic party "expects reciprocation from society for himself or his closest relatives" (156). Such altruism has a calculating side. Wilson believes that reciprocation is the norm for social groups. He notes: "Through the convention of reciprocation, combined with a flexible, endlessly productive language and a genius for verbal classification, human beings fashion long-remembered agreements upon which cultures and civilizations can be built" (156). When human altruism is soft-core, often the human mind is troubled. How can a Christian theology address altruism in the new millennium? Can human beings enter the realm of agape in its Christian alliance?

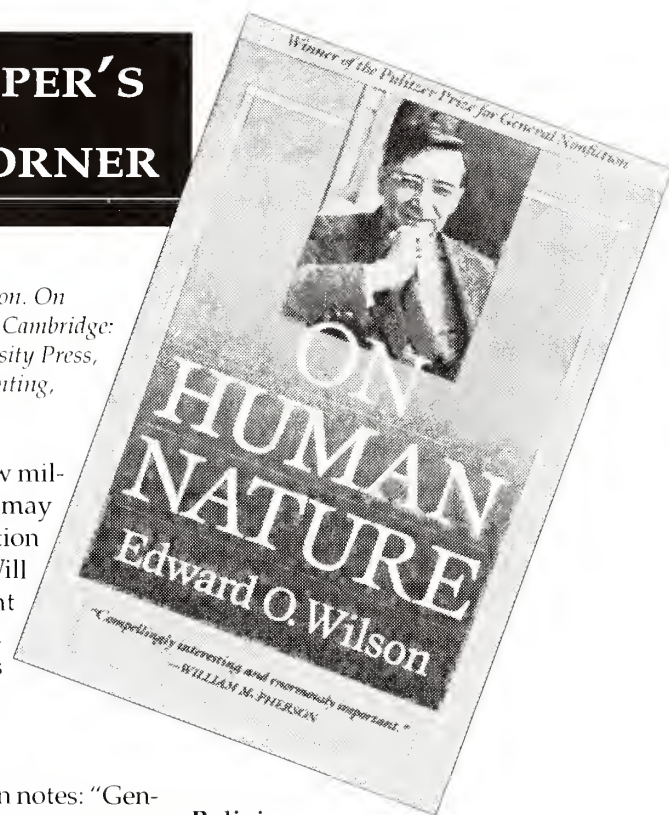
### Religion

The power of religion in Wilson's view is in its emotional impact to bind groups together in allegiance. Through religion a society can "counteract selfish behavior" (185) and build a strength of alliance and allegiance. With symbols, commitment, and a transcendental belief, religion points to the "primal source of power" (192) in the universe. For OFWB, that primal power is the Father from everlasting to everlasting.

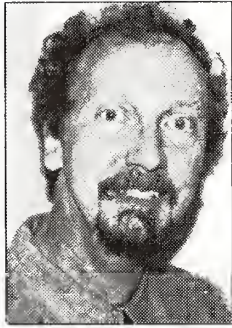
### Conclusion

Wilson calls for a dialogue between science and the humanities. He values the gene pool of homo sapiens and calls for a recognition of the value of genes in the history of mankind. He knows that both economic and social problems are the concerns of governments. He asks: "Can anything really matter while people starve in the Sahel and India and rot in the prisons of Argentina and the Soviet Union?" (205)

What are the concerns of the Christian religion? OFWB know them to be faith, hope, love, salvation, and eternity. A dialogue with science, politics, economics, and faiths must take place in the millennium to pave the way for greater bonding globally. ❖







# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning

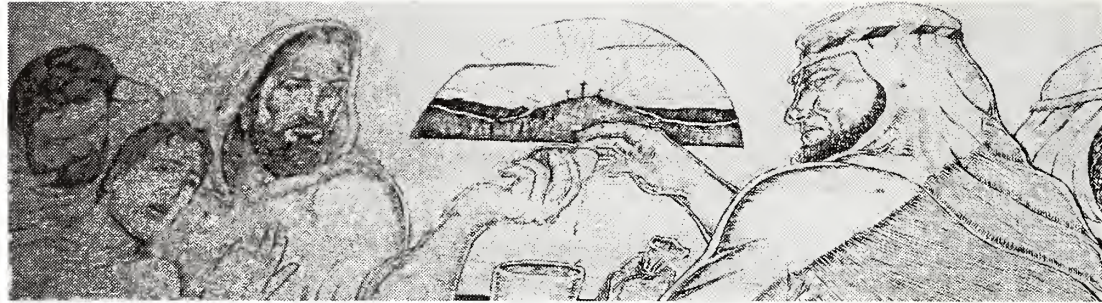
One of the most frequent religious scenes is that of Jesus celebrating the Passover meal with the disciples. The most famous of these is by Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) painted in a life-size fresco on the walls of a religious room. One of the features of Da Vinci's imagery is the extraordinary sense of perspective in both the spacial sense and religious connotations. However, many other artists have sought not to best this great work by Da Vinci, but to provide their own vision of how such a Passover took place as described in John 13.

## Artistic Style

The image given us by Jana Guitar is unusual in its medium of wood-burning. The artistic style is one of amazing detailed lines depicting the forms of Jesus and the disciples. In the case of perspective in this work, we see a unique point of view. Rather than being a dining hall interior like that of Da Vinci's, we see through a semi-circular window (behind the figures) the hill of Golgotha and three crosses. The three disciples shown here in this detail of Guitar's wood-burning are most probably Judas, James, and John.

## Symbolism

Pictorially, we are seeing the institution of the communion. Jesus has dipped the bread in the cup of wine beneath his hand for we see drops from the bread as he offers the bread to his disciples. (This form of communion is known as intinction, where the bread is dipped in the wine and is presented to the believer as a whole



Source: *The Last Supper* by Jana Guitar of Carteret County. Private Collection.

piece). Directly behind the hand of Jesus that is reaching out to the hand of the disciple (Judas), is the symbolic crucifixion, which is a form of the reaching out of Jesus to the salvation of humanity in the form of the crucifixion. The hill looks almost like a loaf of bread, as if a place where the bread of life is broken.

You may ask, "Why are the hands so predominant in this wood-burning?" Jesus is giving the bread of life to the one who will betray, namely, Judas. Notice the moneybag under the hand of Judas. This moneybag is clutched by Judas's left, or sinister hand, while with the right hand he reaches for the bread. Here is also a symbolic reflection of the scriptural mandate: "Do not let the right hand know what the left hand is doing."

There is a hardness in the face of Judas, as if he is angry with what he is doing and feeling. Interesting also is that Judas wears a traditional head-covering, which can be seen in the Middle East today. This gives the wood-burning both a Biblical and modern aspect. We also know the figure reaching for the bread is Judas, because he sits on the opposite side of


the table. Symbolically, he is in opposition to the teachings of Jesus.

We also might notice that it is the left hand of Jesus which is offering the bread. The right hand of Jesus, which is over his heart, is giving a symbolic gesture of two fingers and a thumb, symbolizing the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Symbolically, the thumb is the Holy Spirit because the thumb is the active and working member of the trinity. The longest finger symbolizes the Father. The forefinger, which we associate as a pointing finger, symbolizes Jesus pointing to the truth and the way.

## Conclusion

Although we are used to seeing religious imagery, we often dismiss that which might seem familiar such as *The Lord's Supper*. But may we learn from this simple line representation how much important information is available to us if we will but look carefully with the eyes of faith. Christian art is not meant to be idolatrous but seeks to heighten, explain, and magnify the presence of the Divine. ❖





# March 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 †	6	7	8	9	10 †
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 †
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 †
25 †	26	27	28	29	30	31

5—Central Conference Layman's League, Free Union Church, Walstonburg, NC, Meal 6:45 PM; Business 7:30 PM.

10—Eastem District Spring Youth Con-

vention, Whaley's Chapel Church, Richlands, NC, 9-10 PM.

17—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Conference, Sandy Plains Church, Pink Hill, NC, 9:30 PM.

24—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Conference at Little Creek Church, NC 903 West of Ayden, NC, Registration 9:00 AM.

25—Foreign Missions Annual Telethon, Call in between 1:30 & 5:30 PM.

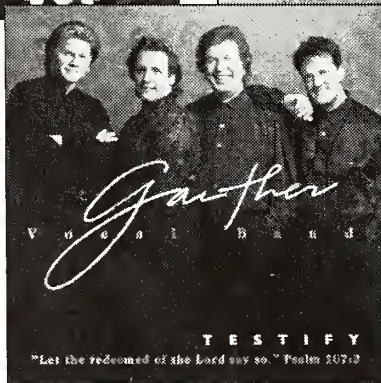


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## His Greatest Triumph

**T**he life of Jesus and the words He spoke always served to lift the burdens of suffering humanity. He fulfilled His own mission statement: "...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). How difficult it must have been, from the human perspective, to realize the "life" He was offering was His own. Yet, He never wavered from that purpose.

As He fulfilled His earthly sojourn, He touched the lives of all He met. We read these stories in the Gospels and we marvel at His words, His compassion, His power over all types of diseases and infirmities, and His power to forgive sin, thus restoring lost souls to spiritual health. He never degraded any one. Those who sought His help found it. He lifted up the fallen, restored sight to blind eyes, hearing to deaf ears, and more important than anything--He forgave the sinners.

### Toward Jerusalem

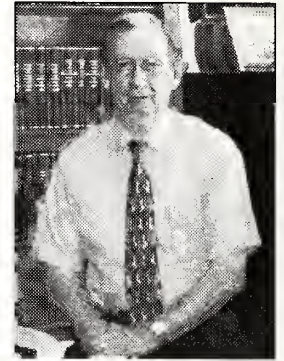
In Luke 9:51 we read: "...he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem." At this time in His earthly ministry, the Cross and His ascension back to the Father were drawing closer. Knowing what was awaiting Him in Jerusalem, however, did not deter Him from fulfilling His Father's will. Later, when Jesus was facing His accusers, Pilate asked Him: "...Art thou a King...? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth...." (John 18:37). His Kingship, however, was not of the kind that Pilate had in mind, although they proclaimed Him King of the Jews.

Opposition to Jesus did not begin in Jerusalem. Early in His earthly ministry there were those who sought His death. As recorded in Luke 4:16-30, Jesus was rejected by His hometown of Nazareth. This happened after Jesus mentioned that the Gentiles would be recipients of God's blessing rather than the Jews. "And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way" (vv. 28-30). As he performed miracles and continued His teachings, His fame spread. At times He was lauded by the multitudes, but His enemies were always there, ready to bring accusation against Him and to bring an end to His earthly ministry. Yet, in spite of the opposition, Jesus pressed on toward Jerusalem and the suffering that awaited Him.

In His discourse on "The Good Shepherd," Jesus de-

## Editor's Thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



clared: "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father" (John 10:17-18). Thus, after the cruel suffering on the Cross, Jesus finally declared, "...Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost" (Luke 23:46). His mission was accomplished!

### Resurrection Reality

We are familiar with the story. Loving hands removed Jesus from the Cross. In the midst of their tears, they proceeded with the necessary arrangements. Help in the midst of their grief came in the person of Joseph of Arimathaea, "...who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out of the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed" (Matthew 27:57-60).

Jesus had said He would "... be killed and be raised again the third day" (Matthew 16:21). All other events in His life are important, but it is the Resurrection that gave the ultimate and final victory. There was no power or human source that could have prevented His Resurrection. The disciples, who were slow to understand the impact of the words, "He is risen," were soon to be thrust forth into the hostile world Jesus warned them about, but by that time their lives were transformed. The truth of His Resurrection became a reality, and after Christ ascended back to His Father, "...they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following" (Mark 16:20).

So must we go forth with the message of salvation through Jesus Christ—our living Savior and Lord! ❖



C. H. Overman, Editor  
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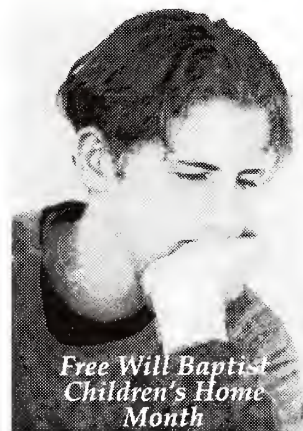
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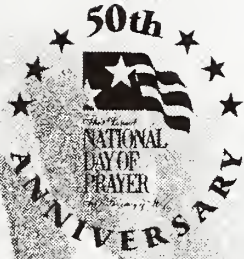


April is Home Missions & Evangelism Month



# One Nation Under God

by Gwen Stein  
National Day of Prayer Task Force



**A**s we prepare for the next National Day of Prayer, I encourage you to consider the many things our nation has experienced over its great history. We have fought for our freedom as a nation, freedom from slavery and division of our country, and the freedoms of other people across the world. It would have been far easier to avoid the conflict, pain and loss we were forced to endure; however, when we sought God's help and faced conflict as one, the outcome was always a success.

Our nation has faced many times of trials and challenges. In contrast, citizens from around the world continue to view the United States as a safe haven for personal freedom. When the headlines deliver discouraging news, this should serve as a great encouragement of how important it is for each of us to continue in prayer for our country to be as one, under God.

This year, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Day of Prayer, which was established in 1952 by President Harry Truman. How blessed we are as a nation to have had godly predecessors to lay the foundation of this and on the sanctified act of prayer. They took the time to not only encourage a day of prayer for our country, but also to approve legislation for future generations to publicly express their faith. It was on this godly heritage that our nation was founded. We indeed have much to celebrate and be thankful for, that this legacy of prayer has been established in America.

Each of NDP's coordinators is fulfilling the high calling of leading prayer events throughout our nation. Each year, new souls are transformed by the events that draw the hearts of the lost. Think of the eternal impact you have on your city, state and country! Though there may be times when you feel as if your efforts are fruitless, "do not grow weary in well-doing." It's been said that all evil needs to succeed is for good men

and women to do nothing. By your commitment to pray for people where you live and across our land, transformations are truly happening!

On May 3, 2001, we will again lift our prayers across this great nation and its territories—from dawn until midnight, for our spiritual and governmental leaders—for God to be the Lord of the United States of America. How appropriate for a people to desire God's blessing, leadership and protection for the future generations of a country. What an opportunity for each of us to leave behind a legacy of thriving faith and prayer.

Just as the godly ancestors of our nation bravely fought for our freedoms, acknowledging that it was by the divine hand of God that we were victorious, let us not be discouraged and turn from the battle our country faces spiritually. Each of you is a valiant soldier in the army of the living God. If we are to be "One Nation Under God," we can only do so when we unite and commit to continue in prayer.

Let us, therefore, commit to intercede for our land and encourage others to do the same. Let us also take confidence in God's promises as given in Psalm 33:20-22, "We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name. May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You." ♦



# Easter

## If Christ Be Not Risen

What a solemn thought! What if it were true that Christ had not risen from the dead? Pause and meditate a moment. There would be no hope, no life beyond the grave. Nothing to look forward to but sorrow and disappointment. Words cannot picture how dark the scene would be. "If there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ: whom He raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: and if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable" (1 Corinthians 15: 13-19).

But thanks be to God we have the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! His Resurrection has been called "the best authenticated, great event of history." "Everything depends upon it and without it we should be even as others who have no hope. "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." A dead Christ might have been a Teacher and a Wonder-worker and remembered and loved as such: but only a risen and living Christ could be the Savior and Life-giver and as such preached to all men. Oh, may the Lord enlighten the eyes of our understanding, that we may know what is the exceeding greatness of God's power to "usward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the Heavenly places" (Ephesians 1:18-20). ❖

## Hundreds of Pastors Leave Their Ministry Each Month

*Groups seek to find out why so many clergy quit and provide help to dropouts.*

by Eric Tiansay

Former Nazarene pastor Michael Ross didn't know where to turn when he dropped out after more than 20 years of ministry. Today, he's on a mission to find out why so many pastors quit.

According to estimates by the Alban Institute in Washington, D.C., at least 17 percent of clergy suffer from stress or burnout, *The Charlotte Observer* reported. About 1,400 ministers a year call a toll-free hotline of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), which counsels ministers through its LeaderCare program. Brooks Faulkner, a LeaderCare counselor, estimates that nearly 100 SBC pastors leave their ministry every month.

Sunscape Ministries of Colorado, which serves clergy in crises, reported that in all denominations nationwide, 1,600 ministers per month are terminated or forced to resign their pulpit, *The Abilene Reporter News* reported. Although a sense of hurt is unavoidable for both pastor and congregation, it is particularly traumatic for a minister who steps down," Ross said.

"I think evangelical pastors struggle the most when they leave the ministry because they feel like the calling was for life, Ross told *The Tennessean*.

Ross runs the nonprofit Pastors Institute in Indianapolis, which is conducting a nationwide study on the reasons disillusioned pastors leave the pulpit in such alarming numbers. Ross is urging former ministers in 13 cities to complete a confidential on-line questionnaire intended to explore their motivation.

Besides the Pastors Institute, displaced pastors can also get help elsewhere. Woundedshepherds.com is an on-line community for former pastors and their families, featuring a chat room and message board and confidential prayer requests. The Onesimus Project, a partnership between the Pastors Institute and Grace Ministries, an indepen-

dent congregation in Indianapolis, is a study in how congregations can effectively minister to former pastors and their families.

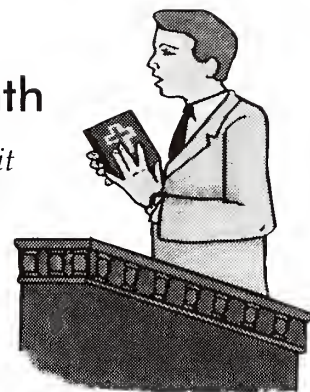
The Church of Refuge, a SBC program in Texas, offers terminated pastors and their family a rent free home for up to one year. Like the Pastors Institute, another group—sponsored by 12 denominations—is also conducting a pastor dropout study.

Experts say pastors leave their pastorate for a variety of reasons, including family pressure, needing more income, burnout, disillusionment, being forced out, discouragement and feelings of unfulfillment.

Faulkner said national research from the 1980s and 1990s revealed that the leading cause of pastor fallout was "the control and power factor." "Who's in charge was one that kept surfacing," said Faulkner, who has 35 years experience counseling embittered pastors. "The second leading cause was lack of unity in the congregation. There's a small, but powerful minority of members, and there are factions in the congregation. Both have to do with who's in charge."

Ross said the expectations on the pastor by today's churchgoer are much different than a generation ago. "Churches are doing more marketing now; there's more pressure to perform and entertain and succeed, Ross told *The Tennessean*. "Ministers can't be entertaining enough, so they drop out."

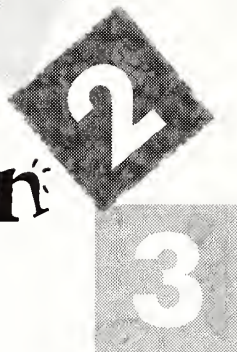
Ross plans to take the findings of the survey and create programs to help expastors. Ross will also share his research with denomination leaders so they can learn more about a pastor's career that went awry. (Charisma News Service, Webmaster@strang.com) ❖





# The Countdown

by Gene B. Britt, Pastor  
Rose of Sharon Church, Robersonville, NC



**R**ecently, while visiting with my two grandsons (ages 3 and 18 months), I was taught a good spiritual lesson. One night the oldest grandson, Christian, was really trying his father's patience. He was so full of energy he could not be still or quiet for a minute. After several times of telling him to stop, my son said in a loving, fatherly voice, "Christian, I am going to count to three and you had better stop." This, of course went right over Christian's head and he continued his mischievousness.

Finally, my son said in a very loud, stern voice, "One." The other little grandson, whom we thought was oblivious to what was going on, suddenly jumped to his feet. He turned toward his older brother, pointed his

pital, I thought of my grandsons and remembered Will shouting "Two." It brought a smile to my face and joy to my heart, and suddenly I realized I was like those two little boys. How many times has my Heavenly Father put me through the drill of saying, "My child, I have told you time after time to trust in Me, for you know that all things work together for good to them that love Me."

I was reminded of Psalm 27:14, "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart...." I knew again that God always takes care of me when life's struggles are too hard to bear, and I must not depend on anything or anyone, but be patient and wait for God to have His way.

I thought of what Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I immediately began to pray, and thanked God for the disappointment, because it made me again realize my perspective in life and the greatness of my God. And suddenly there came a peace over me and I felt good about everything.

No matter how old we are or how long we have been Christians, we are still babes in the Lord. Each day we learn something new about God's love and His marvelous grace. Pay attention to what is around you; after all, this is God's world and we are God's creatures. He is our Heavenly father and He cares for you. So listen for God's still voice; He may be saying to you, "My child I am telling you one more time, trust in Me." And for those of us, who are a little forgetful and sometimes a little stubborn, He may even have to say, "One, Two, Three!" ♦

***"Christian, I am going to count to three and you had better stop."***

little finger, and in a loud voice said, "Two." You can imagine how hard it was for us to all hide our laughter. I later told my wife that the boys had heard that drill before and they knew what was coming.

Several days later, I became discouraged by an incident that happened and while riding quietly in my car to Greenville to visit a member in the hos-

## WHEN WE HURT

by C. H. Overman

I saw him on the left shoulder of the road as I passed.

Struck by a car, I thought.

The dog—just an old hound—  
Was injured in his hind legs.

He was not forsaken, however,  
His master was approaching.  
He lifted the old hound,  
Hoping he could walk.

But he simply collapsed to the ground.  
The master then tenderly reached down  
And lifted him in his arms, and took him home.

"A shame," I thought, "that the dog was hurt."  
But it happens many times in life—the accident,  
The sickness, the injury.

It's great, I remembered, that there is  
Someone who really cares;  
Someone who will stoop to help,  
Who will take the burden upon himself.

So it is in life—the hurt, the pain, the accident.  
Sometimes there's not much we can do;  
But we can comfort, encourage, and simply care.  
And then hope and pray for the best.  
And place all matters in His divine hands,  
For He knows all about the tiny sparrow—  
The old hound, and all about us—  
His very own. ♦



# Living Faith

Director/Pastor, Wayne Watson, Living Faith Mission Church, Landis, NC.



Living Faith Mission Church gathers around new church sign.



Above: Closing on Living Faith Mission Church property November, 2000. Right: Work Day at Living Faith.



Mission Churches growing!

## Sunrise Landing



Above: Sunrise Landing, Point Harbor, NC property and location of a temporary worship center to be constructed on site by April/May 2001.



Below: Covenant Mission Church, Hope Mills, NC.

## Covenant



Below: Pastor Tong Xiong, wife, Go Xiong and Mrs. Retha Lane, LEC/H'mong, Albemarle, NC.



Above: Pastor Long and Church leaders, LEC Valdese, NC.



Above: Covenant congregation enjoys the pews, pulpit, and Communion table, donated by Pleasant Grove Church in Erwin. Thank you for helping this congregation.

## Ethnic Missions, North Carolina...

Left: Sunrise Landing sign marks the spot where the families of this community will soon worship.

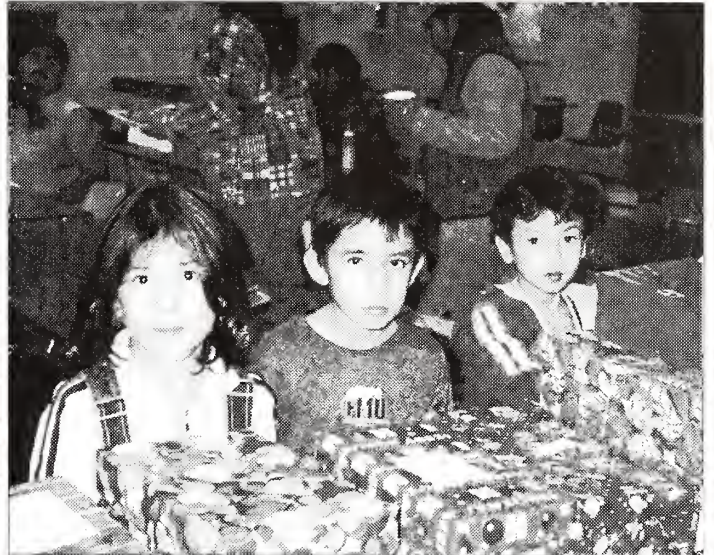




# Hispanic

Pragmont Youth Retreat, Lao Evangelical Church, Albemarle and Valdese, NC.

Below: Oriental Church is partnering with Home Missions to continue outreach to the Hispanic community throughout Pamlico County.



Left and Right: Mrs. Brown's students at project Kid's Kare Event, Chinquapin Elementary School, receive boxes provided by Original Free Will Baptist Churches.



Above: Coordinators of the project Kid's Kare distribution at Chinquapin Elementary School, December, 2000.

## Touching Lives for a Lifetime...



# H'mong

Below: H'mong Youth group Sacramento, CA.



Below: H'mong women's group, Sacramento, CA.



Right: Work team ready, Fresno, CA., L. to R. The Revs. Lewis Forsythe, Everett Harper, and Graham Lane.



Above: Old shingles come off at Lao Evangelical Church Fresno, CA.



Above: Lao/Cambodian Mission Church youth sing during worship service in Moreno Valley, CA.

## Lao/Cambodian

Below: Pastor Kevin Moua and Women's Choir lead songs in worship service, Fresno, CA.



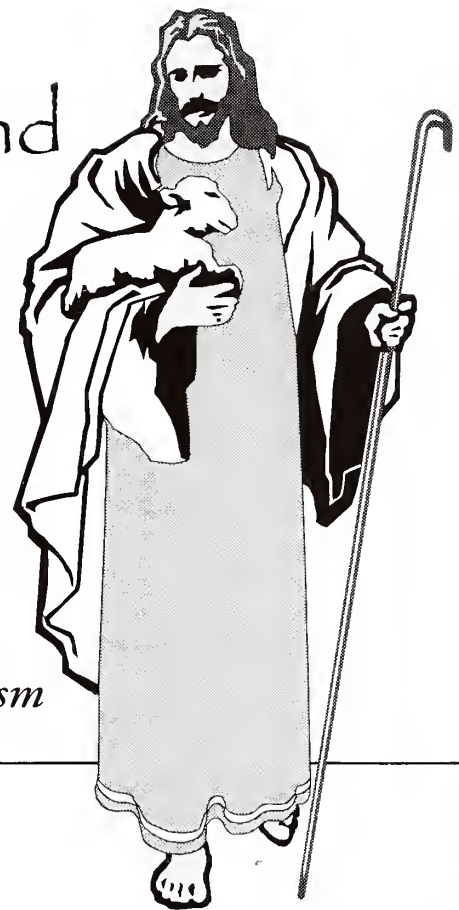
...in California



# April is Home Missions and Evangelism Month

*Good Shepherd Sunday,  
April 22, 2001*

*Pray and Give for Home Missions and Evangelism*



Home Missions and Evangelism  
Guide For Week of Prayer  
April 16-22, 2001

## **Monday, April 16**

- Sunrise Landing Mission/Church, Point Harbor, NC
- Pray for a Director/Pastor for Sunrise Landing
- Pray for a new development, Havelock, NC
- Good Shepherd Sunday - April 22 - Offering Goal \$80,000

## **Tuesday, April 17**

- Living Faith Mission/Church, Landis, NC
- The Rev. Wayne Watson, Director/Pastor of Mooresville
- Board of Directors for Home Missions and Evangelism
- Executive Director and Staff of Home Missions and Evangelism
- Good Shepherd Sunday - April 22 - Offering Goal \$80,000

## **Wednesday, April 18**

- Lao Evangelical Church of America  
(H'mong people-CA, MN, NC, NV, UT, OR)
- The Reverend Joshua Bee Lee, President of Lao Evangelical Church
- H'mong Youth Camps in 2001, CA and NC
- Dr. A. Graham Lane, Ethnic Missions Coordinator
- Good Shepherd Sunday— April 22 — Offering Goal \$80,000

## **Thursday, April 19**

- Church Planting
- Covenant Mission/Church, Hope Mills, NC
- The Rev. James Corbett, Director/Pastor of Covenant
- Deaf Missions, Ms. Marin Bandel, Coordinator
- Touching Lives Corps Groups - as they will be doing summer field work
- Executive Director and Staff of Home Missions and Evangelism
- Good Shepherd Sunday - April 22 - Offering Goal \$80,000

## **Friday, April 20**

- Charity Mission Church, Whiteville, NC—Focus on community outreach
- Pray for a Director/Pastor for Charity
- OFWB Commission on Scouting
- The Harvest Covenant Program (Helping the small church grow)
- Good Shepherd Sunday - April 22 - Offering Goal \$80,000

## **Saturday, April 21**

- Cambodian, Thai, Lao Mission/Church, Moreno Valley, CA
- The Rev. Kitti Rojratanakiat, Director/Pastor of Cambodian Mission/Church
- Mobile Ministry - The events using our tent this season
- Mission America- Lighthouse Movement
- Good Shepherd Sunday - April 22 - Offering Goal \$80,000

## **Good Shepherd Sunday, April 22**

- Home Missions and Evangelism Sunday for Original Free Will Baptists
- Continued Prayer and Support for:
  - A. New fields and missionaries in NC and across America
  - B. Hispanic Missions, Evangelism and Church Planting
  - C. Disaster Relief Program, Project Kids Kare and Canning Hunger
  - D. Christian Literature, Scripture Distribution and Jesus Video Project
- The Ministry of Home Missions and Evangelism
- Original Free Will Baptists as we expand His Kingdom ❖



## McCoy Family Recognizes Father and Daughter With Endowment Fund

**S**onya McCoy learned about Mount Olive College through relatives and members of her home church, Hugo Original Free Will Baptist Church, located in Lenoir County. Having attended a small Christian school, Mount Olive College was a natural selection when the time came to select a college.

Sonya completed her Associate in Arts Degree at Mount Olive College in 1980 and then went to Atlantic Christian College where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. She attended East Carolina University, where she received her Master's Degree in Business Administration. Upon graduating from East Carolina in May of 1984, Sonya learned of the opening for a business professor at Mount Olive College. She began teaching the following August.

"I had always been very interested in teaching," Sonya said. "I was very excited about the opportunity to return to the place where I had such fond memories. I believed strongly in the mission of the College and felt it was the type of work environment I wanted."

Since Sonya joined Mount Olive College she has been recognized as the Teacher of the Year and has received numerous other honors including the BPWian of the Year and the Woman of the Year from the Southern Wayne County Business and Professional Women's Club.

When Sonya's father, Billy Ray McCoy, passed away in 1999, her mother, Elsie McCoy, decided to establish an endowment fund at the College so that memorial gifts would benefit other students. Instead of naming the fund for Sonya's father, her mother thought it was appropriate to name it the Sonya Faye McCoy Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Sonya's mother, Elsie McCoy said, "Billy Ray was always so proud of Sonya. He was especially proud of her accom-



plishments at Mount Olive College, and the fact that she was making a difference in the lives of the students she taught. She loves her students, and teaching at Mount Olive College is a very meaningful experience for her, I

know that Billy Ray would have wanted this fund established in her name rather than his." Because of her love for her students, earnings from this fund will be used to provide scholarships for students in the field of business.

"My parents both worked hard and sacrificed a lot so that I could attend a private Christian school and later Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College," Sonya said. "I believe for many students a small school atmosphere with good academic programs can be a good experience. Not all students are cut out for large schools. Mount Olive College is small and can provide individual attention for its students. I feel that by working at Mount Olive College I am giving back to the Church and most importantly to God. I am very proud of my denominational heritage and am very pleased to have the opportunity to give back to the denomination."

Aside from being Assistant Professor of Business at Mount Olive College, Sonya serves as treasurer of the Southern Wayne County Business and Professional Women, secretary/treasurer of the North Carolina Phi Beta Lambda Professional's Division, advisor of the College's chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, faculty athletic representative, and a member of the executive committee of the Carolina-Virginia Athletics Conference, and secretary of the Conference.

Contributions honoring Sonya or family memorial gifts can be made to the fund at any time and in any amount. Gifts can be sent to Gift Records Office, Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365. ❖

## Hill Finds Success through Mount Olive College

**R**oger Hill of Clayton, NC was called into the ministry two years ago. Having already established a career as a consultant for the state and trying to support a family, Hill's newfound calling did not come about at the most opportune time. How could he ever manage a career, a family, and the intense workload associated with earning a college degree? He found the answer through Mount Olive College's Church Ministries Program.



"My job requires me to be out of town a lot," Hill said. "But only having class one night a week has enabled me to work my schedule around class, and I take my homework with me on the road."

The Church Ministries program at Mount Olive College is a two-semester program that prepares men and women for service and leadership roles in local churches, denominational work, and nonprofit ministries. Courses are designed to help students gain an understanding of Christian theology and Biblical concepts and how these principles are applied to active ministry in the world. The program is offered at the College's New Bern, Wilmington, and Mount Olive locations.

"The Church Ministries Program is very intense," Hill said, "but I understand the need to receive an education in preparation for the pastoral ministry. The program has helped me in my ministry by causing me to do a lot of research. I have also enjoyed being in classes with ministers from other denominations."

Roger is licensed with the Cape Fear Conference of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, currently serving as interim pastor of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Sampson County and plans to complete the program in August and graduating in December 2001.

Roger and his wife, Ginger, have one son. ❖



## Student Fellowship Leads Chapel Service

The Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship was in charge of the weekly chapel service on Tuesday, February 6. The students led others in praise and worship songs and presented a skit and sermon.

Front row, left to right: Emily Skinner, Sherron Acres Church in Durham County; Bryan Williamson, Saint Mary's Grove Church in Johnston County; and Kevin Parker, Westside Church in Lenoir County. Back row, left to right:



Jimmy Frederick, Duplin County; Jonathan Skinner, Sherron Acres Church in Durham County; Charles Waters, New Bethlehem Church in Pamlico

County, Dale Belvin, Friendly Chapel Church in Guilford County; and Shannon Mixon, First Church of Wilson in Wilson County. ❖

## Drag Those Instruments Out of the Closet

Do you have musical instruments lying around, collecting dust or tucked away in your attic? Drag them out, dust them off, and contribute those instruments to a good cause.

Mount Olive College is currently offering a course in brass methods and plans to offer a course in woodwinds in the fall. The courses are for students interested in becoming certified music education teachers. According to Irene Patten, associate professor of music at Mount Olive College, the institution is requesting used instruments from the community to help offset the cost of the course. If students do not own instruments themselves, they would be required to rent them from another source. Trumpets, trombones, flutes, and clarinets are the instruments being requested.

"I know there are people that have their son's or daughter's old band instrument stored away somewhere gathering dust. They hate to throw the instruments out, but they no longer have a use for them. We hope to bring life back into those instruments," Patten stated.

People interested in contributing instruments to the music program at Mount Olive College should contact Ms. Patten at (919) 658-7166. ❖



Above: The Rev. Francis Garner, Mrs. Lorraine Garner, Cindy and Lee Adams, and Diane Riley.

## Prospective Ministerial Student Visits Campus

Diane Riley, alumni director is shown with Francis Garner, Mount Olive alumnus and pastor of Edward's Chapel Church, Carteret County, and Lee and Cindy Adams on a recent visit to Mount Olive College.

Lee has accepted the call into the ministry and was reviewing the educational opportunities at Mount Olive College. ❖

## M O C UPCOMING EVENTS

**Alumni Family Day**—Sunday, April 1, 2001, beginning at 10:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. The day of fun will include a worship service, a buffet lunch, MOC's baseball team vs. St. Andrews College, the Lady Trojans vs. Queens College, and dinner. For more information, contact Diane Riley director of alumni relations, at (919) 658-2502, ext.3009.

**Vivian B. Harrison Lecture**—Tuesday, April 10, 2001, at 9:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. Admission is free and pastors and laypersons are invited to attend. For more information, contact the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister, at (919) 658-2502, ext. 3082.

**The Mount Olive College Singers** — present their annual Spring Fling on Thursday, April 19, 2001, in the Lois K.

Murphy Regional Center beginning at 8:00 PM Friends are invited to attend.

**The Mount Olive College Choir**—Spring Concert will be Friday, April 20, 2001, in Rodgers Chapel. The performance will begin at 8:00 PM and everyone is invited to attend.

**Mount Olive College Awards Day** — will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2001, at 11:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. Friends are invited to attend.

**Mount Olive College's 2001 Spring Graduation** — will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2001. The worship service will begin at 10:30 AM in Rodgers Chapel and the commencement ceremony will be in College Hall at 2:00 PM. ❖



## Change For Children 2001

We begin our fifth year of the "Change For Children" campaign. Our previous four years have been a huge success, thanks to you and many Free Will Baptists who saved their change for the children. The "Change For Children" campaign has increased awareness of our child-care ministry and generated financial support for crucial months during the summer.

This year, we would again like to encourage our churches to begin the month of May by inviting everyone to save their change. In April, your church will receive information, collection bags, and bulletin inserts.

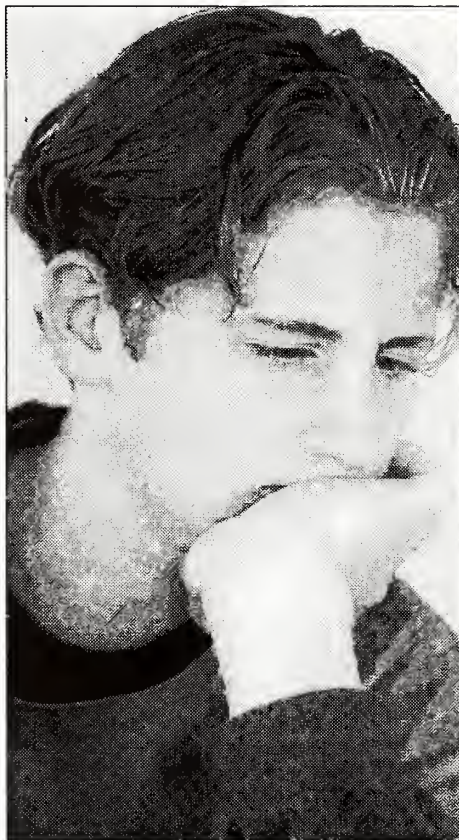
We request that you:

- Pray for the Children's Home ministry.
- Encourage each family in your church to save their change during Children's Home month. We will provide change bags for everyone.
- Designate a Sunday in May as Children's Home Sunday.
- Support the Children's Home in this campaign.

This opportunity will:

- Encourage families to work together collecting their change.
- Provide youth and new members the opportunity to learn about the Children's Home.
- Increase awareness of your child-care ministry.
- Increase financial support from churches.

Please keep our ministry in your prayers, as we continue to serve more children and families. The support you give us makes a difference in the lives of children. Thank you for caring and sharing. ❖



## Adolescence

Adolescence is a difficult time for children; a time when they are becoming aware of their nearness to adulthood and independence, with its attending responsibilities. This period in the children's lives is difficult enough when they are being cared for by their parents, but an additional stress is placed on children whose parents are not readily available, as is often the case with the children at the Children's Home.

It is important for adults who work with children, whether our staff or parents, to understand the reasons for children's behavior. Understanding is the first step in working with children.

It follows, then, that the second step is to provide loving support as the adolescent presses toward adulthood. Adults are the primary role models children emulate. May each of us set the example and always be "Christian examples of God's love." ❖

## Thank You!

We would like to thank the Rev. Frank Harrison and the following churches for providing needed funds so that we could charter a bus for our children to visit the N. C. Zoo in Asheboro.

*First Church, Williamston, NC  
Hull Road Church, Snow Hill, NC*

*Snow Hill Church, Snow Hill, NC  
Bethel Church, Four Oaks, NC  
Sarecta Church, Kenansville, NC  
Reedy Branch Church, Winterville, NC  
May's Chapel Church, Dudley, NC*

Because of the dedication of each member, our children can look forward to a special day. Thank you for caring. ❖

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Various Types of Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Large Dictionaries
- ☐ Gym Bags
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Desk Lamps
- ☐ Large Electric Griddles
- ☐ Large Electric Fry Pans

- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games (*Jeopardy*, *Winnie The Pooh*, *Ms. Pac Man*)
- ☐ 5 Wooden Glider Swings
- ☐ Mechanical Pencils
- ☐ Board Games (*Bible Bingo*, *Girl Talk*, *Operation*, *Battleship*)
- ☐ Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Pole Lamps
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD Rom Encyclopedia



Members of Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie, NC, visited and toured our campus on February 10. We would like to thank each member for their time in preparing and delivering "Valentine Bags" for our children.



Above: On February 19, Makeisha W., Christina H., and Faith N., of Smith Cottage, were given training and instruction in tax preparation by Mr. Gary Lee, Vice President.

The residents of Smith Cottage (PAL-Preparation for Adult Living) have been busy participating in discussion and activities on self-esteem and tax preparation for the month of March. The curriculum changes each month. The month of April will involve stress management and dealing with anger and depression. Each resident of Smith Cottage is required to work a part-time public job. The knowledge gained through each activity and their work experience will prepare the residents with skills to be able to lead self-sufficient, healthy, productive, and responsible adult lives.



Members of Woodmen of The World, Lodge # 764 of Lucama, NC, treated residents and staff to hot dogs and dessert in Heritage Hall on February 13.





## To God Be The Glory

by Harold Jones

**T**he Rev. Everette Harper, who founded "Renewed Vision Ministries," came to the Foreign Missions office last November to discuss the possibility of taking one of the "Build One for Them" projects. After much discussion, Everette decided to take the church building at our orphanage in Jamshedpur, India. This building was a dream of the late Mr. Saire, who founded the orphanage. It is also a great need of the congregation in Jamshedpur.

Everette stopped by the WDRP radio station in Williamston to talk with the manager, Johnny Bryant. During their conversation he mentioned the project in India. After hearing the story of the orphanage and church, Mr. Bryant told Everette to sit down at the mike and they

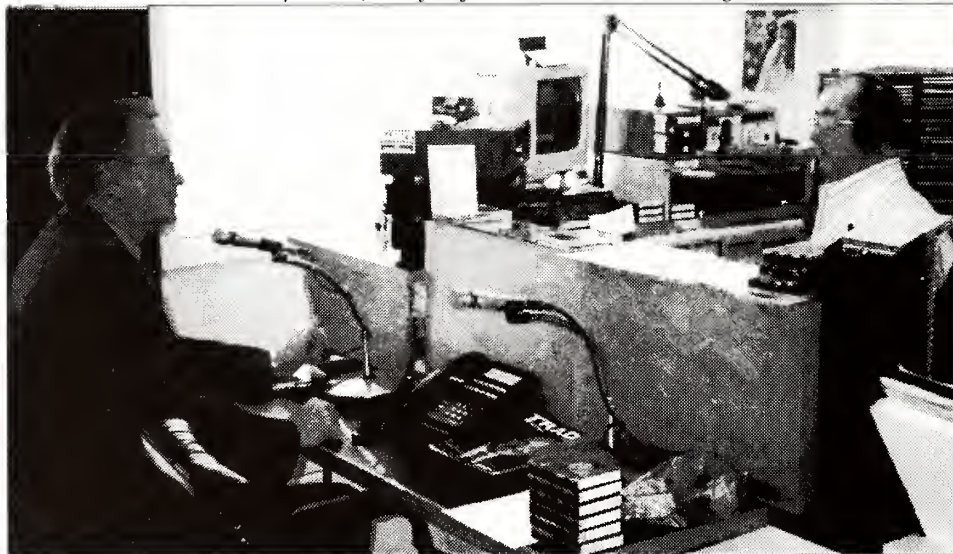


Above L to R: Harold Jones, Johnny Bryant, WDRP Station Manager, and Everette Harper.

shared this story with the radio audience and told the listeners if they would like to contribute to this need to call the radio station. Within twenty minutes, pledges of \$ 8,400 had been called in. The funds were sent in promptly and on December 20 at our weekly devotion and prayer time at the Headquarters, Everette surprised me with the check for the church building.

On behalf of the Board of Foreign Missions, the orphans, and the church in Jamshedpur, I want to thank Everette, the radio station and the people who gave to make this building possible. The funds have already been transferred to India and construction should begin soon. To God be the glory! Great things he hath done! ♦

Below L to R: Everette Harper and Johnny Bryant, WDRP Station Manager, in the control room.



## Care

by Tezdan

**T**he summer season is the easiest time for the people of Bulgaria, and especially for the people who live around us. Nature offers enough food to live, but the end of fall and winter are difficult for many people with low income, about \$15.00 per month. Their situation grows worse when they get sick. The Bulgarian government tries to help them with a minimal increase of their pensions.

I saw a report on National TV. A social worker went to the house of an older woman to bring her pension. When she heard that her pension was raised to 10.00 leva, which is 5 U. S. dollars, she wept with happiness and prayed a blessing over the hands of the social worker. This was because of the good news the social worker brought to her. That report was heartbreaking for me.

The other day I shared that with Willem and he asked me "How often do the retired people eat a small piece of meat per month?" "I know that they don't eat meat at all. Many of them prefer to buy their medicaments and bread with some yogurt than to waste their money on meat," I answered.

Then followed a suggestion by Willem: "I buy some meat for the retired people and all those who are living alone." Two days later we were butchering a big calf, which we bought. Now and then Willem loves to practice his ability to clean and cut meat and to make kaima, which is ground beef. Late in the afternoon I took meat to the poor, lonely people around us and they were happily surprised by this homecoming event between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. It was his personal gift to the people in need.

We had quite a bit of work that day, but Willem did not hesitate to cook until late at night. He made bean soup with meat balls for the children and the youth. The next morning we made the tables ready and surprised them all with a delicious breakfast. About twenty-three children and thirty-one of our





*Above: Children of the Bulgaria mission enjoy bean soup and meat balls prepared by Willem at the homecoming event.*

youth ate and blessed the hands of the cook.

All our activities are accomplished in one room. If we decide to feed them we cannot have our Bible study, writing, and reading lessons. However, we praise our dear Lord and Savior for all

the blessings which we receive through Him. We thank you, also, for the possibilities which you have handed over to us to be able to serve in the name of Jesus. Since I have been in America, I understand that also many children, youth, and young people are standing

at our side. To all of you I pray that the Lord blesses you and brings his peace and wisdom upon you. To all of you I say: "Thank you very much for the sparks of hope and the sparks of happiness which you allow us to bring upon others." ❖

## Bayanihan Evangelism Caruray San Vicente, Palawan, Philippines

*by Pastor Arman Manzano*

**T**he Central District of Free Will Baptist Church Philippines once again unite our efforts to reach the people of Caruray San Vicente for Christ, which is approximately 130 km from Puerto Princesa City.

We spent three days there sharing the Gospel together with Pastor Bern Borja, Mrs. Borja, and their committed young people. We felt the inevitable joy from above for this precious moment, for we had seen the glory of God. Many souls received Christ in their hearts.

During the second night we had a film showing entitled, "The Cross and the Switchblade." It gave a deeper commitment to their hungry hearts for God.

Let's pray for Pastor Bern Borja and family who work hard in this area, also to the new babes in Christ to become mature and useful children of God.

Thank God for the De Jesus family who faithfully support the ministry here and willingness of the young people to do the task.

Once again we can say to God be the Glory! ❖

*Below: Four persons were baptized at Caruray Beach during Bayanihan Evangelism.*



*Below L to R: New outreach at New Pangangan. Members during Bayanihan Evangelism, Caruray San Vicente, Palawan.*







## A New Sunday School Comes to Life

by Mary Dudley,  
Director of the Sunday School Ministry

**O**n Sunday, March 4, 2001, Living Faith Original Free Will Baptist Mission, Landis, NC, had its first Sunday School Day.

The people have been working diligently since October, 2000, when they occupied their current facility, to begin a program of Christian education for their church's community. They began the process of certification for the Sunday School teachers and officers in January 2001 by committing to a weekend of learning opportunities.

In February, they had a workday to paint and spruce up the buildings and grounds. Materials were donated, bought, and otherwise secured to adequately equip the classrooms for their first sessions of classes. Several churches



from the eastern part of the state contributed to the cause. Among them were Elm Grove at Ayden, New Bethlehem at Grantsboro, Sarecta at Kenansville, and Black Jack at Greenville.

As the day approached, the excitement grew and the people were overjoyed to see approximately 40 students come to Sunday School on March 4. In addition, there were 59 folks for worship that morning.

That evening, the church joined with Elwood Lane and some 80 people, and, the Rev. Wayne Watson baptized five people. During that day, there were 6 new visitors to the mission. God is richly blessing in this effort in the Landis community. ♦

## Sunday School Institute

**T**he Annual Sunday School Institute sponsored by the Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry was held Saturday, March 3, 2001, on the campus of Mount Olive College. There were approximately 360 excited people in attendance.

The day of learning opportunities got under way with the children of Whaley's Chapel Church using puppets to encourage people to "get up and go to Sunday school." Afterwards, The Rev. Keith Kenemer, National Training consultant for the Evangelical Training Association, delivered a rousing, thought-provoking keynote address which ended with the question, "Can you tell I like Sunday school?"

The remainder of the day revolved around 30 different experiences led by 23 different workshop leaders. Among them were: the Rev. and Mrs. Mary Ann Kenemer of ETA, the Rev. and Mrs. Ted

Wilbanks of ETA, Mrs. Rebecca King from Sandy Plain Church, Mr. Kip Godwin from Beaverdam Church, Mrs. Becky Estep from Cabin Church, Dr. Mike Barnhill from St. Mary's Church, Dr. K. David Hines from Mount Olive College and Free Union Church at Walstonburg, Dr. De Eakes from Little Rock Church, Dr. W. B. Raper from Mount Olive College, Dr. Milton Lownes from Wayne County Hospice, the Rev. Frankie Baggett from Elm Grove Church, the Rev. James Bearden from Standard Publishing Company, Miss Kelly Warrick from St. Mary's Church, Mr. Keith Letchworth from Winterville, Mr. Hulon Whitehead from Westside Church, The Rev. John Mark Windley from Whaley's Chapel Church, Mr. Darren Davenport from the Free Will Baptist Press and Reedy Branch Church, Miss Amy McCoy from Core Creek Church, Miss Cynthia Hansley of

Wilson, the Rev. Chris Singleton from Beulaville Church, and Mrs. Rebecca Hill from Westside Church.

Even though the rain threatened, the spirits were high as people were challenged to work to grow the churches in our denomination. Reports indicated that over 115 different activities were conducted during the month of February to promote Sunday school. Certificates of Achievement were given those churches that reported their activities.

Even though the Sunday School month has passed we should never let our efforts to grow sit idle. We need to continue to work to grow our Sunday schools both numerically and spiritually. We encourage you to contact the Sunday School Ministry at the Headquarters to share ideas or to set up a time when Mrs. Dudley can come and visit your church to discuss the Sunday School Ministry. ♦



# Keeping Our Heritage Alive...

**A**t the beginning of the 21st Century, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is in the best position in its history to carry out the mission and purposes for which it was brought into being.

The Original Free Will Baptist movement in the United States began as early as the 1690s. These early churches were of the General Baptist persuasion and "free will" in principal and practice.

The name "Free Will Baptist" was given to these churches in 1828, and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists was organized in 1913. Through the Convention, Original Free Will Baptists promote and support an active denominational program—from the printed page to child care, from home and foreign missions to the support of our ministers' retirement, from the education of our youth in both college and camp to

financial aid for our churches, from the training of Sunday School teachers to the teaching of the Word to all ages. In addition, there are boards and commissions relating to information and the work of our laymen.

To assure our Heritage and Faith, we have established the Heritage Club.

## How Does The Heritage Club Work

When you share you are helping our Convention in its daily operation through the Convention Operational Fund. Ten percent (10%) will be placed into the Heritage Endowment and five percent (5%) will provide funds for establishing Heritage Hall at our headquarters. Five percent (5%) will also be given to the Original Free Will Baptist Historical Collection housed at Mount Olive College.

## How Do I Take The First Step?

The first step in keeping our heritage alive is to return the form below along with your first share. Remember, upon receipt of your first share you will be presented with an elegant certificate, suitable for framing.

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is committed to earning your trust. We provide a financial report in the Program and Report Book at our annual Convention. And, upon request, general and financial information on the Heritage Club, the Heritage Endowment and Heritage Hall will be made available to you.

We're sure you'll agree that the heritage of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is worth preserving. ❖

### I Want To Keep Our Heritage Alive!

☐ I've already decided and am ready to begin immediately. My first share is enclosed. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I/we have decided to help keep our Heritage alive by giving

☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly

☐ Semi-annually ☐ Annually

Checks should be payable to the Heritage Club and mailed to:

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Heritage Club**  
Keeping Our Heritage Alive



## Layman's League

### Juniper Chapel Layman's League Raises Money For Camp Vandemere



#### Retirement Homes Gets New Resident

**M**rs. Daisy Batchelor, widow of Mott Batchelor, a Free Will Baptist Minister who recently passed away, has become a resident of our Retirement Homes Ministry.

On Saturday, February 28, 2001, she moved into the apartment at 4031-A North Lee Street, Ayden, NC 28513.

We welcome Mrs. Batchelor into our program. Her telephone number is (252) 746-3293 and her birthday is November 3, and our people are encouraged to write her or give her a call.

Mrs. Batchelor becomes the twelfth person in the Retirement Homes program and we sincerely seek the continuing prayer and financial support of all Free Will Baptists.

The Scriptures teach us to care for persons who need help and Retirement Homes Ministry exists for the express purpose of helping with that care program. Frequently it is said that Retirement Homes is people helping people in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and you are invited to join us in this ministry. Thanks and may God Bless You! ❖

**T**he Layman's League of the Juniper Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, NC, sponsored a BBQ for Camp Vandemere on Saturday, January 27, in an effort to help the camp raise money for a new swimming pool.

There is no doubt that God blessed and honored every effort that was put forth in this successful endeavor, which netted over \$2100. Robert Ramsey, president of the local Layman's League, said, "The participation from our church was wonderful. We had nearly 60 people involved in cleaning chickens, cooking hogs, mixing slaw, baking cakes, and serving the meal. It was a great blessing to be able to help the camp, which does such a great work for our denomination."

The Juniper Chapel Church is an active and vital part of the movement, and supports all of the denominational ministries with regular financial contributions, as well as attendance at its various functions. The members of the congregation believe strongly in the denominational work and are willing to give of their time and talents in its support.

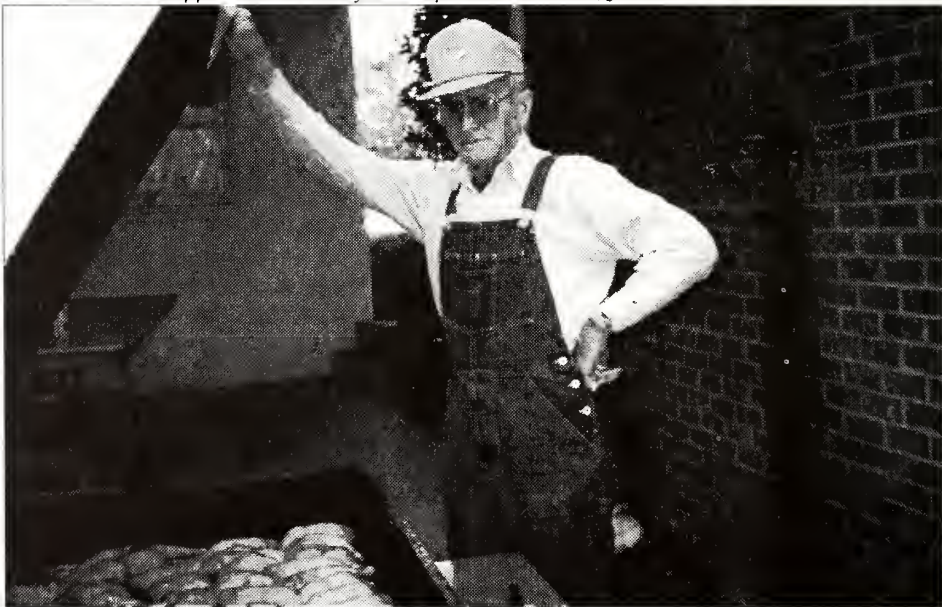
The Rev. Mike Scott, who pastors the church and serves on the Camp Vandemere Board, says, "I am extremely thankful for the laymen of the Juniper Chapel Church, and appreciate their efforts in behalf of the camp."

One of the unique things about our church is the fact that, even though we have sponsored many fundraisers in the past, there has never been a charge to anyone for the food or services that were provided. All monies that are received are by donation, and no one is turned away, whether they are able to contribute or not."

The laymen of Juniper Chapel would like to challenge other Laymen's Leagues throughout the denomination to follow their example and to sponsor fundraising events for the camp. The expense of a new swimming pool is great, but the need and the reward of souls for God's Kingdom is even greater.

It is impossible to put a price on the value of just one soul, and it is the prayer of this Layman's League that what we have done will result in many coming to the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. ❖

*Below: Robert Tripp cooks chickens for Camp Vandemere BBQ.*





# Layman's League "Spiritual Life Retreat"

Camp Vandemere, NC, June 1-2, 2001

*Theme: Following His Steps 1 Peter 2:21 "... That ye should follow in his steps."*

## Friday, June 1, 2001

6:00 PM Fellowship, Sharing, Prayer Time

## Saturday, June 2, 2001

8:00-9:30 AM Breakfast and Fellowship Time

9:30-10:00 AM Fellowshiping in His Steps in Self-Denial,  
Luke 9:23, The Rev. Ray Conner

10:00-10:15 AM Recreation and Fellowship

10:15-10:45 AM Following in His Steps of Non-Conformity,  
Romans 12:1-2, The Rev. Frank Harrison

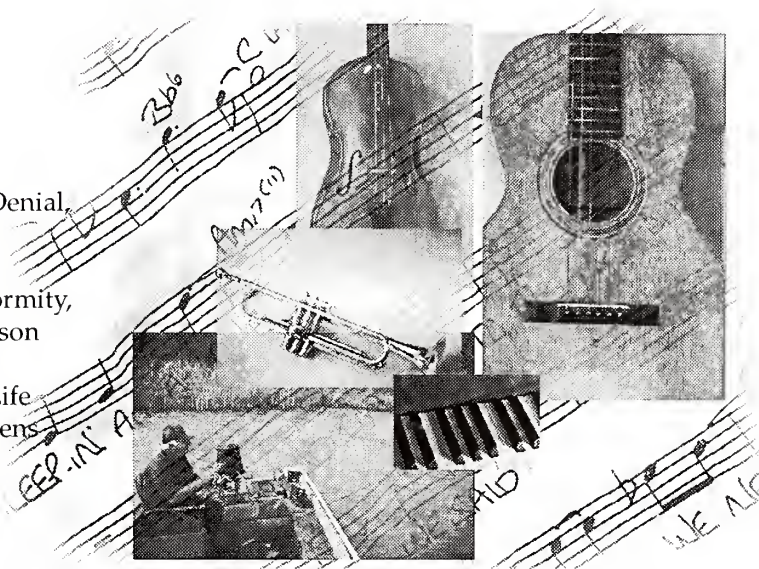
10:45-11:00 AM Break

11:00-11:30 AM Following in His Steps in Christian Life  
Style, 2 John 2:6, The Rev. Chuck Owens

11:30-12:30 PM Lunch

12:30-1:00 PM Prayer and Meditation

1:00 PM Benediction



**I**f you plan to stay Friday night at Camp Vandemere, bring your linens and whatever else you will need. Bring your Bible. Games with prizes will be presented during the day's activities. Fathers, bring your sons for a fun-filled time together. Invite your neighbor to come with you to enjoy the fellowship. This could add to additional members. We all need a stronger brotherly love. Come on down Friday after-

noon, do a little sightseeing, fishing, etc., and then enjoy a free supper on Friday evening at 6:00 PM. Then enjoy a time of fellowshiping, devotion, and testimonials; bring your musical instruments for a enjoyable big time. Bedtime will be at your wish. The moonlit night, whispering waters, the music, guitars, etc., are something you will really enjoy. Friday night accommodations, \$10.00;

Saturday Breakfast, 8-9:30 AM, \$3.50; lunch, 11:30-12:30 PM, \$4.50. For further information, contact: Elmer Harrell, 502 SE 3rd St., Snow Hill, NC, 28580. Telephone, (252)747-2894. See your new in-ground swimming pool and remodeled facilities. All sessions on Saturday will be at Camp Vandemere. This year's "Retreat" is the best planned yet. Come and enjoy it.



## Registration for Layman's League "Spiritual Life Retreat"

Complete the following for our attendance and accomodation preparations:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Conference: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I plan to arrive Friday afternoon in time for the FREE dinner, etc.

☐ I plan to spend Friday night with my Fellow Laymen. Enclosed is my check for \$10.00 for use of the sleeping quarters. Make checks payable to: State Layman's League. Return this form to: Harold Humbles, 919 Tripp Grimsley Rd., Ayden, NC 28513. Telephone: (252)746-4140.



"Send out thy light and  
truth..." Psalm 43:3



## Camp Vandemere Our Family Enrichment Center

by Owen Arthur

Things are going very well at the camp. March was a busy time with a group at the camp each weekend. Some of these came for the first time and were very pleased with the facilities and with the warm welcome they received from our staff. Spring is just around the corner and you can feel the excitement in the air when you go to the camp.

Mike has been working to get everything ready for your visit to the camp and for all the campers who will be attending. The dorms have a new coat of paint, new doors will soon be installed, the boys' showers have been improved, and many other projects have been done. The new camping schedule is ready and was in the *The Free Will Baptist* last month. Work is underway on the new in-ground pool and all is ready. All that is lacking is your visit to the camp.

The schedule has some new directors who bring with them some new ideas. We have one week that will be devoted just to teenagers. This will be June 11-15, with the Rev. Tommy Yopp as director. We are excited about this week and are expecting a good turn out; we encourage you to get your application in early. Some of the other weeks will be devoted to those who have not yet reached those wonderful teenage years.

Don't forget the Laymen's League Retreat, June 1-2. This weekend will be a good time for our laymen to come and receive a spiritual renewal. Plan to come on Friday, spend the night in the dorm, and enjoy the wonderful fellowship, not to mention the pig picking on Friday night. The cost for spending the night in the dorm is \$10.00. The program, the food, and the fellowship on Saturday will be outstanding.

As I look back over the last few years, I am very pleased with the progress the

camp has made. A couple of years ago we were working to buy new mattresses for the dorm. Another year, we were working on getting new bunk beds. Then there were the new tables, new freezer, and refrigerator for the dining hall. About this same time we were able to install a new bulkhead and last year we added paddle boats to our recreation equipment. As I think of all this, I realize how wonderfully the Lord has blessed the camp. All this has come about because of your prayers, faith, and generous offering. The board would like to say "Praise the Lord" and thank you for all you have done for us.

Plans in the future are to add a chapel so we will have a place that will be used only for the worship services. At present we use the dining hall, the screened in building, or out by the cross. The board would like to see new dorms built that would serve the camp for many years in the future. We ask that you continue to pray for the Board of Directors as we continue to serve and honor our Lord at Camp Vandemere.

Encourage your young people to come to camp this summer. If you missed the schedule in *The Free Will Baptist*, call Mike at the camp and he will be happy to send one to you. His phone number is 252-745-3171.

When sending donations, send them to our treasurer: Mrs. Judith Kennedy, 933 N. N.C. 41, Pink Hill, N.C. 28572. If you are sending money for special projects such as the pool, or the Light-house Keepers Club, please be sure to earmark your check or it will go into the general fund.

Come and visit the camp, spend a night or two, do some fishing, or just relax and enjoy the beauty that the Lord has so richly given to us. ❖

## THOUGHTS FOR LIVING

by Dr. Thomas M. Parrish

The Apostle Paul said: "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead..." (1 Corinthians 15:19-20). It was that assurance that kept him going.

The Resurrection is also the assurance that motivated the women at the tomb, the apostles, and all those through the ages that has built the Church of Jesus Christ with a burning passion. Although the Early Church did not possess the financial and technical resources that we have today, they turned the known world upside down for Christ.

It was not through fantastic music programs, extensive sports activities, or even fabulous dinners to encourage fellowship that got the job done for them. They were endued with the power of the Holy Spirit and motivated by the Resurrection of our Lord. Let the knowledge of that Resurrection motivate you on this Easter Sunday (*The Advanced Quarterly*). ❖

### Churches & Ministers Available

NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of *"The Free Will Baptist."* (Each notice will run for two issues only.)

**Croatan Original Free Will Baptist Church**, New Bern, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested is asked to contact Buster Hansen, (252) 447-4737. ❖





# April 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 †	2	3	4 †	5	6	7 †
8 † PALM SUNDAY	9	10 †	11	12	13 † GOOD FRIDAY	14
15 †	16	17	18	19 †	20 †	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 †
29	30					

1—Alumni Family Day, Rodgers Chapel MOC begins at 10:00 AM.

4—Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Antioch Church, Pikeville.

7—Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Smithfield Church.

10—Vivian B. Harrison Lecture, MOC, Rodgers Chapel 9 AM.

19—MOC Singers/Spring Fling, Lois K. Murphy Regional Center 8:00 PM.

20—MOC Choir/Spring Concert, Rodgers Chapel 8:00 AM.

22—Good Shepherd Sunday, Home Missions

28—Cape Fear Union Meeting, West Clinton Church, Clinton 10:00 AM.

The Free Will Baptist Denominational Calendar



## VBS Workshop Is A Big Success

The 2001 Vacation Bible School Workshop was held on March 9 and 10 at the FWB Press in Ayden, NC. Attendees had the opportunity to listen to Barbara Griffin, a Standard Publishing representative, as she discussed the *Jesus To The Rescue* series. Griffin talked about the many ways Bible school teachers could implement activities in their classrooms this summer and how it can impact a child's faith in Jesus Christ.

"We were well pleased with the number of people who turned out for the workshop. All together we had 149 people from 58 churches in attendance. Griffin did a really good job," reported bookstore coordinator, Darren Davenport.

He says there are several VBS themes to choose from this year. *The Polar Expedition*, the *SonCreek Junction*, *Courageous Kids*, *Mystery Mansion*, and *VeggieTown Values* are all available at the Bible and Bookstores in Ayden, Wilson, New Bern, and Kinston.

"The themes are very good this year and most offer something for all age groups. The key is to order your VBS supplies early. As it gets closer to summer, the chances of stock running low or out increases," explained Davenport. ❖

*Below: Barbara Griffin from Standard Publishing Co., presented materials offered in "Jesus to the Rescue."*



*Above: Several VBS themes are available this year.*



*Above: More than 100 people filled the Press warehouse to learn about the 2001 VBS materials.*



*Above: Customers were given the opportunity to browse through display items.*



## Love Was In the Air

by Vickie Wade

Love was in the air during February at the Kinston First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC.

Congratulations to the Early Elementary Sunday School Class for increasing their membership by 4, they now have 11 members. The proud teachers are Anne McCleary and Vickie Wade.

February 10 brought out all of our sweethearts and their guests for a Valentine banquet/movie night. We shared a delicious covered dish supper. C. B. Wade, Hubert Waters, and Pastor James Owens sang "Can't Help Falling in Love" prior to the introduction of the movie, "A Vow to Cherish."

Brenda Owens shared an extraordinarily delicious "take five" during the morning worship service on Sunday, February 11. She baked "Be My Valentine" sugar cookies for all of her special valentines.



Above: Circle 5 Members: Rose Phillips, Fay Quinn, Tracy Mills, Kay Avery, Joy Clements, and Laura Monroe.

February 13 was a very special night for members of Circle 5. Long awaited revelations were unfolded—secret pal names carefully hidden for the past year were finally revealed! Each year circle members choosing to participate in the secret pal exchange meet the Tuesday

before Valentine's for a special dinner at Carraway's restaurant and combine a "girl's night out with exchanging of their gifts."

The World Missions Conference on Sunday, February 18, at Mount Olive College, was attended by 9 of our auxiliary members and guests who enjoyed the fun and fellowship of the Conference as well as the camaraderie during their travel from Kinston to Mount Olive and back home. ❖



Left: Members of the Church partake of a delicious Valentine banquet. Below Left: Row one; Ryan McCleary, Jonathan Gaines, Landon Toler. Row two; Erin McCleary, Jake Monroe, Hunter Toler, and Clay Gaines. Below: Mrs. Brenda Owens shares a sweet treat with the Children's Church during "take five."





## Central District Layman's League



The Central District Layman's League met on March 5, 2001, at Free Union Original Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, NC, with a record attendance of 205. Twenty-one churches were represented, including 24 pastors. An offering of \$610.00 was received for the Endowment Fund at Mount Olive College. The president of the Central District Layman's League is Mr. Gary Evans.

Dr. David Hines is the newly-elected Senior Pastor of Free Union. The Rev. Todd Sutton was also recently elected as Associate Pastor.

The men gathered at 6:30 for a delicious meal of barbecue, prepared by the Free Union laymen. ❖

## Meditation

How sweet must be that happy land,  
Far beyond the blue,  
Christ the Lord reigns supreme  
With every foe subdued.

No burdened hearts, no sin to mar  
The beauties God has prepared;  
For all who love the appearing  
Of Christ Jesus in the air,

No gossips, no evil thoughts,  
No one to misunderstand;  
One's heart and motives can be seen,  
Transfigured by God's hand.

No heartache, sorrows, grief, nor pain,  
No disappointments, nor care;  
Just love, and peace, sweet fellowship  
Among each other there.

How pleasant to dream of heaven's  
sweet

Where weary souls may rest;  
But sweeter still to awake and find  
'Tis true! With Jesus ever blest.

by Katie W. Roper, 1909-2001 ❖

**2001 Youth Convention Project**

Projector and Big Screen • VCR • Sound Board  
Laptop Computer • Microphones • Speakers  
\$150.00 per Church (Any donation will be appreciated)

*All For You!*



# Cape Fear Union to Meet April 28

The Cape Fear Union will convene with West Clinton Original Free Will Baptist Church, Pierce Street, Clinton, NC, April 28, 2001, at 10:00 AM.

Scott Johnson will bring the devotions. The host church pastor will bring the message, and special music will be by the host church.

All churches are encouraged to attend. Please bring your report and contribution for the Union. ❖

## Katie Wilkinson Roper

**M**rs. Katie Wilkinson Roper, 92 of 7845 NC Hwy 99 S, Belhaven, died Friday, March 9, 2001 at her home.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, March 11 in the Chapel of Paul Funeral Home in Belhaven, with the Rev. Michael C. Quintas, Sr., officiating. Burial followed at Oakdale Cemetery in Washington.

Mrs. Roper was born in Beaufort County on February 23, 1909, daughter of the late James Wiley and Elizabeth Gaylord Wilkinson. She was a 1928 graduate of Pantego High School. She attended East Carolina Teacher College.

On August 3, 1930, she married Edwin Roper, who preceded her in death on April 22, 1998. She worked as a substitute teacher and was a homemaker. She was a member of Sidney Original Free Will Baptist Church where she served faithfully for over sixty years, including service as Sunday school teacher, pianist, YFA director, and Missions chair for the Woman's Auxiliary.

Survivors include one daughter, Lucretia R. Burbage of Belhaven; one son, James B. Roper, Sr, of Washington; four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. ❖

## North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists Seventy-Fourth Annual Session May 10, 2001

Hosted by Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention  
Shady Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church Dunn, North Carolina

Theme: "Taking Jesus With You." Scripture: John 20:15 "...Tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away."

8:30 Registration Carolyn Jernigan, State Vice President  
(8:30 - 9:15 — "Coffee and Conversation" State, District, and Local Woman's Auxiliary Officers are invited to share in a time of discovery in the Shady Grove Fellowship Hall. Come to ask questions, to make suggestions, and to gain information about Woman's Auxiliary work and responsibilities.)

9:30 Call to Worship Dawn Faircloth, Vice President Youth Convention  
Hymn "Take the Name of Jesus with You"  
Call to Order Joan Little, Eastern  
Devotions Western District Youth Convention  
Convention Prayer Linda Jackson, President, Cape Fear  
Welcome Cathie Creech, Youth Chairman, Western  
Response Debi Fulcher, President Shady Grove  
Announcements Auxiliary  
Joan Little  
President's Address Youth Convention Officers and Board  
Business Session Representatives  
Offering

Offertory Prayer  
Life Membership Award  
10:55 Break  
11:05 Music Former youth officers

Auxiliary Hymn Charles Godwin, Youth President,  
Memorial Service Cassie MacPherson, Board Representative  
Pee Dee District  
Becky Jo Sumner, Program Prayer  
Introduction of Program  
Song of Worship  
Youth Presentations  
Hymn District Winners  
Denominational Ministries "Take My Life and Let It Be"  
The Rev. David Charles Hansley, General  
Administrator Convention of Original Free  
Will Baptists

Report of Committees  
Hymn "Jesus Calls Us"  
Benediction



## Attention North Carolina Woman's Auxiliaries

by Nadine Crocker, State Treasurer

**T**he 2001 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Dunn, NC. Each Auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or a fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of \$25.00. In order to save time, we request that you send your registration in advance. This allows the State Treasurer to prepare the cards in advance, and saves the delegate the trouble of having to pay at the door.

Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, to the following address:  
Mrs. Nadine Crocker, 568 House Rd.  
Kenly, NC 27542.

If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the Convention

needs your support. We hope, however, to see you there.

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your District Treasurer before, or in time for, your District Convention. The dues are 40 cents per member per year.

Send these dues to your District Treasurer. She will keep 20 cents and send 20 cents to your State Treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this, as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past support. We know that we can continue to count on you. ❖

## Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention Saturday, April 7, 2001 • Smithfield Church

**Theme:** Ladies In Waiting: *"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).*

9:00 AM Registration

9:30 AM Auxiliary Hymn, *"In the Service of the King"*

Welcome, *Smithfield Church*

Response, *Smyrna Church*

Devotion and Prayer, *Esteleen Tart*

Hymn, *"Near to the Heart of God"*

Offertory Prayer, *Host Church*

Presentation of Offering

Special Music, *Host Church*

Business Session

Roll Call—Minutes—Old and New Business

Denominational Ministries Reports

Short Break

Hymn, *"In His Time"*

Installation of Officers, *Jean Ackiss, State Secretary*

Special Music, *Angela Warren*

Message, *Becky Jo Sumner*

Hymn, *"Have Thine Own Way"*

Benediction and blessing of food, *Host Church* ❖

## Western District

### Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Antioch Original Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, NC

April 4, 2001

**Theme:** *If not you, then who? If not now, then when? Romans 12:1-2*

9:00 Registration

9:30 Hymn 596, *"I Surrender All"*

Devotion, Mark 10:13-16,

*Gail B. Lancaster*

Welcome, *Melinda Bartlett*

President's Remarks,

*Bettie Lynch*

9:50 Hymn 605, *"Living for Jesus"*

Convention Offering

Denominational Ministries

and Youth Report

Promotion of Woman's

Auxiliary, *Jean Ackiss*

10:40 Memorial Service,

*Judy Musgrave*

Business Session

11:00 Break

11:20 Hymn 593, *"Where He Leads Me"*

Lifetime Award

Special Music, H.I.S. (His

In Song), *Michelle Hamm,*

*Melinda Bartlett, Amy*

*Harrison, Robin Potter, Gail*

*Lancaster, and Joyce*

*Edmundson*

Convention Message,

*Michelle B. Hamm*

Benediction and blessing of

food, *The Rev. Otis Hamm*

12:30 Lunch

## Rings Found at Mount Olive College

A set of rings was found at Mount Olive College after the World Missions Conference held February 18, 2001. If you lost any rings during this time, please contact Jean F. Ackiss at (919) 658-2502 or e-mail her at [jfackiss@exchange.moc.edu](mailto:jfackiss@exchange.moc.edu). A description of the rings must be given before the rings will be released. ❖



## First Church Observes Women's Sunday

February 25, 2001, was the annual Woman's Sunday at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, NC. Members of the Woman's Auxiliary participated in the 10:45 morning worship by greeting, ushering, leading praise songs, giving the invocation, reading of a poem written by one of the auxiliary members, special music, and praying the offertory prayer. An all women's choir sang special music. Eleanor Sullivan delivered an inspiring message entitled, "Intimacy with God," in both the 8:30 and 10:45 services.

One of the highlights of the service was the presentation of a Life Membership Award in honor of one of the auxiliary members. Hilda Sasser, a most loved and long-time worker in the Woman's Auxiliary ministry, presented this award. The following are her presentation remarks: "Today is a day that we as the Woman's Auxiliary look forward to each year with anticipation. It is a day when we become more than spectators, we become special participators as we lead in this service and honor one of our members with a Life Membership Award. We have twenty-two living members who have been given this honor. At this time, will all Life members please stand?"

"Many times we are asked, what is the Woman's Auxiliary, and what do you do? We are just what the name implies—an auxiliary and helper to our church. We promote and support every ministry of this church and the Free Will Baptist Denomination: namely, both Home and Foreign Missions, the Children's Home, Mount Olive College, Cragmont, Christian Education, Retirement Homes, the Minister's Program, and any other that may arise. We are a missionary organization. In fact, missions is the foundation of this organization. This church was organized as the Wilson Free Will Baptist Church in 1921 and



**Above:** Hilda Sasser on left presenting Life Membership Award to Jackie McKeel.

the Woman's Auxiliary was organized shortly thereafter (sometime in the early twenties) and has always served faithfully throughout the life of this church. As you look at the emblem before you, you will notice the word "Missions" across the bottom, denoting the foundation. The other two sides of the triangle are labeled "Devotion" and "Service." These three words denote the three-fold purpose of the auxiliary as we seek to promote missions, lead our women into a deeper devotional life, and lead them to give their lives in service to God and to His church."

"I believe the life of the woman whom we honor today fully embodies this three-fold purpose. She joined the auxiliary in 1972 and has been an active member these twenty-nine years. She is almost always present at the monthly auxiliary meetings as well as her circle meeting. She has served in most every position in her circles over the years. She is faithful and willing to attend the conventions, both district and state, serv-

ing as delegate when needed. Hers has been a life of service in this church—not always in the limelight, but so much of the times behind the scenes.

Although she has earned this honor today through the Woman's Auxiliary, she is an active member of the Church and Sunday school and regularly attends the services. She serves on Wednesday nights with the meals and regularly attends Wednesday night Bible study. She is also a faithful member of the Senior Citizens Fellowship, serving wherever and whenever she is needed. Faithful, devoted servant best describes our honoree today. It gives me great pleasure to present to you, Jackie McKeel."

Her husband, Mack McKeel, escorted Jackie to the podium.

Mrs. Sasser read and presented the Life Membership Certificate to Jackie along with The Life Award Pin, given by the Woman's Auxiliary and the Auxiliary Pin given by Mack. Other members of the McKeel family in attendance were recognized. Mrs. Sasser challenged other women in the church with this message: "Dear women of this church, if you are not a member of the Woman's Auxiliary, I urge you to become one. We serve an awesome and loving God and would love to have you co-labor with us in this great work."

The sanctuary was beautifully decorated with the Woman's Auxiliary colors of blues and silver. The flowers at the altar were given to the glory of God in loving honor and memory of all the ladies of the Woman's Auxiliary. Special recognition was extended to one of our former presidents and beloved member, Eunice Boykin, who has served and helped to make the Woman's Auxiliary a vital ministry of First Free Will Baptist Church and who celebrated her 82 birthday on this special Sunday. ❖



## Report of Fifth Eastern Union Meeting

by Russell Tyson

On January 6, 2001, the Fifth Eastern Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention met at British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, NC. The meeting was opened by the Rev. Joe Ratcliff, President of the Sunday School Convention. Fifty-five ministers and laymen were in attendance.

The welcome and devotions were given by the Rev. Gordon Hart, pastor of the host church. Reports were received from both Camp Vandemere and Youth for Christ. Following the business meeting, the Memorial Heralds, from Memorial Church, Chocowinity, NC, presented special music. The morning message was delivered by the Rev. Tommy Yopp. The host church provided a delicious meal that was enjoyed by all, along with great fellowship.

The next Fifth Union Meeting Sunday School Convention will meet at Core Point Free Will Baptist Church, Blounts Creek, NC, with the Rev. Gordon Hart, speaker.

Remember, this is your Convention. We welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can improve on it and ways in which we might serve you better. ❖

## Important Events at Oak Grove Church

by Willa Dean Daughtry

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Newton Grove, North Carolina, has experienced three very memorable events during the month of February.

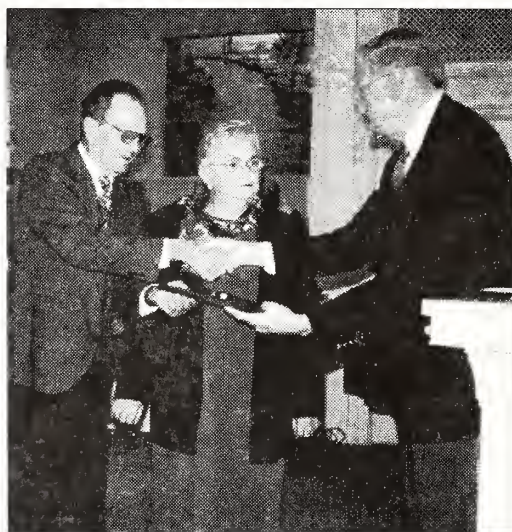
The first one was at our Quarterly Business Session on February 4, 2001. The church membership voted unanimously to call Roger Hill to become pastor. Roger lives near Clayton, N.C. with his wife, Ginger, and his son, Spencer. He grew up in Powhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church where he served in many different capacities.

The Cape Fear Conference licensed him as a minister in 1999 and he is currently enrolled at Mount Olive College pursuing a BS Degree in Church Ministries. We feel very blessed Roger accepted the call to shepherd our flock.

The second occasion was on Sunday, February 18, 2001. The youth of our church hosted a spaghetti luncheon to raise funds for outreach projects. A Val-

entine theme was used to give everything a festive air. The food was delicious and the fellowship was great. Thanks to all who helped make this a success for our youth.

On Sunday, February 25, 2001, Oak



Grove honored Harper and Annie Ruth Warren—a most exemplary Christian couple. Harper recently resigned from the deacon board after serving thirty years. They reared their three children in this church and are now rearing a

grandson. Their dedication to God, our church, and our community is very inspiring.

Oak Grove is proud and thankful for our heritage, but we also seek God's direction for serving him better in the future.

Above: Carl B. Warren, chairman of The Deacon Board, presents Harper Warren a plaque of appreciation. ❖

## AFC Conference at Cragmont July 2-7, 2001

### Registration Form

Please mail this registration form along with a \$100.00 deposit to:

**AFC Conference**  
c/o Frankie Baggett  
5403 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Ayden, NC 28513

AFC Conference at Cragmont will be held July 2-7. The cost of the week will be \$220.00. Make your plans now to attend AFC Conference at Cragmont.

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Church Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Attention Free Will Baptist Women

*Renovation Project for Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College*

In preparation for the Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, to be held at Mount Olive College, May 2002, the Executive Committee of the Convention is recommending that the women help with the renovation of Rodgers Chapel.

When Rodgers Chapel was constructed in 1974, the women helped furnish this building. The chapel has been greatly used for the past 27 years and is now in great need of renovation. The President of the Convention has appointed a committee and they have prepared a suggested list for individuals and local auxiliaries to consider. As soon as it can be determined, the price will be announced for each item. Each local Auxiliary is requested to review this list and pray for the renovation item that

they would like to fund or help to fund from the following list..

◆ Fabric to cover above the Chancel area (having to remeasure by the foot);

◆ Replacement of parts for the air conditioning unit for the Chapel \$17,000.00

◆ Both rest rooms painted and papered 600.00

◆ Carpet inside of Chapel \$10,000.00—15,000.00

◆ Carpet for Chapel entrance (outside, leave carpet & paint rails)

◆ Some painting inside and out \$2,300.00

◆ Carillon (bells) replaced \$20,000.00

◆ Vinyl replacement (exterior) \$ 8,600.00

◆ Two Classrooms in back of Chapel:

◆ Ceiling tiles to be replaced \$1,200.00

◆ Window treatment (Gary)

◆ Marking board in cabinet mounted on the walls \$700.00

◆ Covering for small table in entrance way (Gary)

◆ PA system

◆ Major Item: Chapel needs enlarging (another bay added to extend length of Chapel)

Each Auxiliary is requested to pray for this project. For additional information or confirmation of an item in which a local auxiliary would be interested, contact should be made with Mrs. Carolyn F. Jernigan, 1725 Easy Street Road, Dunn, NC 28334, Phone: 910-567-6387 (E-mail address: booklady@intrstar.net). ❖

## Added to Bookstore Staff

The customers at the Ayden Bible and Bookstore are greeted by two fresh new faces, Charity Humbles and Adam Jones.

Charity is serving as a part-time sales associate in the bookstore and part-time typesetter for the editorial department in the Press. She is an active member of the Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church in Winterville where she serves as the organist and teaches the preschool Sunday school. Charity graduated from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee in 1997 with a triple degree in Christian Education, Christian Music, and Bible. Prior to attending college she was homeschooled by her mother, Peggy.



Charity comes from a large family. Her parents, Mack and Peggy Humbles have eight children in all and she was named Yvonne Delene. She says her two youngest sisters are named Faith and Hope and when she was seven her father jokingly called her Charity and the name has stuck with her since.

Charity is a former school teacher at Trinity Christian School in Greenville. She is single and lives with her parents in Ormondsville.

Adam Jones is a part-time sales associate in the bookstore. Adam is 20 years old and a 1999 graduate of Greenville Christian Academy. He has completed one year of study at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia where he is majoring in Religion. He is hoping to return to school in the near future. Adam believes that God has called him into youth ministry in the area of music.

Adam is a talented singer and plays the guitar and drums. He attends Temple Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville and leads the praise and worship music



service on Wednesday nights and is the sound technician during Sunday morning worship services.

"Music is a ministry in itself. You can reach a lot of people that way. I hope that through music I can help young people get to know the Lord. Through music a seed can be

planted in someone's heart," said Adam.

Adam lives with his mother, Kathy Jones, in Greenville. His father is the late Eddie Jones. ❖



## Church Holds Dedication Service and Mortgage Burning



Above: L to R, The Rev. Owen Arthur, Herman Tyson and Gorden Edwards.

by Carol Tyson

**O**n Sunday morning, February 11, 2001, Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Chocowinity, NC, celebrated the dedication service of the stained glass windows, oak entrance doors, and mortgage burning of the fellowship building. We had several out-of-town guests and ministers attending this special service.

Our pastor, Owen Arthur, and the Rev. Jesse Crisp, conducted a very beautiful and solemn service. Rev. Arthur served as speaker and Rev. Crisp read the scripture. Followed by the lighting of candles by William A. Upton, chairman of the Board of Deacons, Richard Potter, superintendent of Sunday school, Sandra Morrisette, president of Ladies Auxiliary, Herman Tyson, president of the Layman's League, Stacey Boyd, chairman of the window committee, Lexa Upton, treasurer of the door fund, Gorden Edwards and Herman Tyson, members of the Board of Trustees, had the honor

of assisting our pastor in burning the mortgage. Chris Edwards (representing his father, Gordon) read a very beautiful poem of dedication.

In February of 1995, our church applied for a loan to complete the interior of our fellowship building. We got a fifteen-year loan and on November 15, 2000, we made our last payment, thanks to a gift given in memory of Mrs. Ethel Whitehurst. We thank each person who helped pay off this building in five and one-half years. It was only through cooperation and love that we were able to work together in such a wondrous way to retire the debt.

While we were paying for the building, we saw the need for replacement windows in the sanctuary. On July 21, 1999, we made a down payment to Kivett's for stained glass windows. When the windows were completely installed in the church, we made our final payment.

Our church family has lost a lot of

their family members in recent years. We dedicated these windows to those who have gone ahead of us to be with our Lord.

Following the death of Mrs. Thelma Edwards in February of 2000, a door fund was started in her memory. We have recently installed oak entrance doors and a beautiful window over them, with the name of the church on it.

On January 26, 2001, we made the final payment on those, and as of Friday, January 16, 2001, the church is completely debt-free. Praise the Lord! None of these things could have been possible had not God blessed us above and beyond all we could ever have expected. After the dedication service, our pastor held a short devotion service with prayer and blessing of the food. Everyone gathered in the fellowship building for a meal and lots of fellowship. ❖



# Powhatan's Spring Revival

by Rita Otto Jones

**P**owhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton invites everyone to come to our Spring Revival on April 9-13 with the Rev. Jerry Stephenson. He received his calling several years ago at Powhatan, and it is always special when he comes back to visit with us.

We invite everyone to a Gospel Singing on April 1 at 6 p.m. with the Oak Grove Boys. A collection will be made for the "Youth to Camp" fund. We also invite you to a special Sunday Night Singing with us on April 29. The group "Covenant" will be visiting with us, and our youth are especially excited to be hosting some of their Cragmont counselors who are members of the group!

A group of 31 from Powhatan attended the February 3 Cape Fear District Youth Rally at Palmer Memorial in Garner, bringing back the banner for Youth Attendance. We enjoyed the singing and the program about "Heaven's Grocery Store." Entry forms were turned in for the upcoming competitions, with 25 individuals (8 Cherubs, 7 AFCs, and 10 YFAs) participating in some way this year. Several families stopped at Burger King on the way home and the younger kids enjoyed more fellowship in the play area there.



*Left: Presentation of Life Membership Award to one of three recipients. Woman's Auxiliary Treasurer, Julie Capps surprises sister Margaret Lee Blinson.*



*Left: The Rev. Jim Bogle presents certificates to those children being dedicated.*

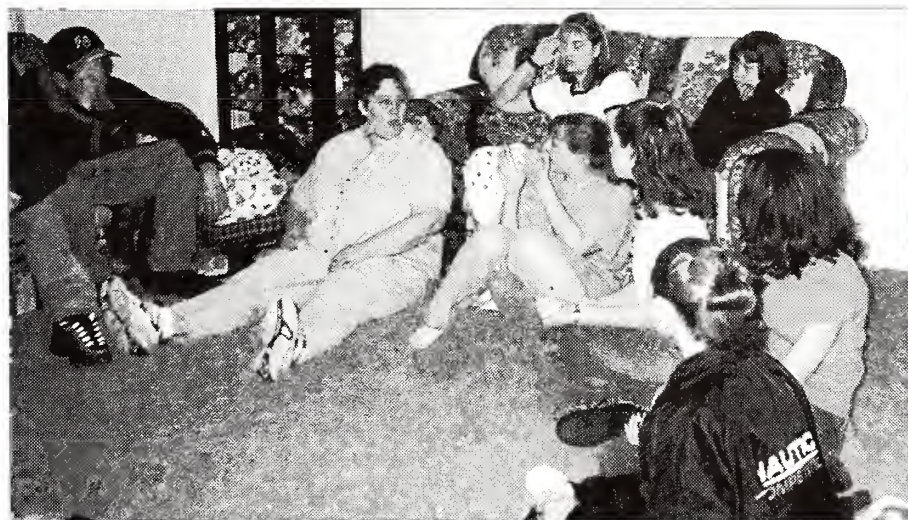
On Sunday, February 4, the special music was brought by Brother Tim Davis. He sang "He Said it All" to tape accompaniment and it was beautiful! Thank you to Tim, one of our newer members, for sharing his talent in the service of the Lord. Recognized during

the morning service were Scouts Gregory Bass and Joey Markle in honor of Boy Scout Sunday.

A baby dedication service was held on February 11 with four families participating. Dedicated were Kyle Benson, Allison & Emily Crumpler, Dylan James, and Kaitlyn Nicole Morris (granddaughter of Graham & Carolyn Faircloth).

The Kemery Ard Sunday School Class sponsored a spaghetti supper on Saturday, February 24, and appreciates all the support for the class. The meal was delicious but the fellowship was the best part.

Girl Scout Troops 364 and 474 (which are sponsored by the church) thank everyone for the support in the recent cookie sale. Funds raised help pay the cost of badges earned and activities throughout the year. ❖



*Left: When you work with the youth like Wanda Benson, sometimes you just have to get down to their level and just listen to what they have to say!*





## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington

**W**illiam Wilberforce

was a member of the House of Commons in England from 1780 to 1825. As a Christian politician, he found himself face to face with political issues such as slavery, lack of freedom for the Irish Roman Catholics, and a tendency to overreact to the French Revolution. He came face to face with what he found to be inadequate or untrue conceptions of God and of Christian behavior.

What were some of the inadequate conceptions that Wilberforce wrote about in his book? He clarifies these: (1) When humans do not have a deep conviction of personal sin, they do not have an adequate view of God's holiness and of their own humility. (2) People prefer to mouth inadequate generalizations about God and Christian behavior, as if to avoid a dialogue "on specific realities" (23). People generalize about not being able to see into the hearts of men rather than speak on a specific topic. (3) People speak of Jesus's traits as if these traits were in the abstract, outside of the lived life, separate from personal behavior. To read these abstract truths from prayer books and to speak them in our common liturgy is not the same as to experience these traits living within our own hearts. (4) People ignore the operation of the Holy Spirit or pretend to "abuse the credulity of the foolish and try the patience of the wise" (25). (5) People may demonstrate emotional abuses in their behavior. People may use their emotions to bring about their own comfort or to bring about misery for others. Self-seekers abuse true Christianity. (6) People rely on their negative merits, their ability to be inoffensive in society, so that they do not become real Christians but nominal Christians instead. (7) Habit, the desire to conform, a sense of ambiguity, the proneness "to justify ourselves in God's sight rather than to ac-

knowledge we are guilty and helpless sinners" (38) are traits of a false Christianity. (8) The name of Jesus is relative with the name of Allah or the objects of "a talisman or an amulet" (41) of relative value also.

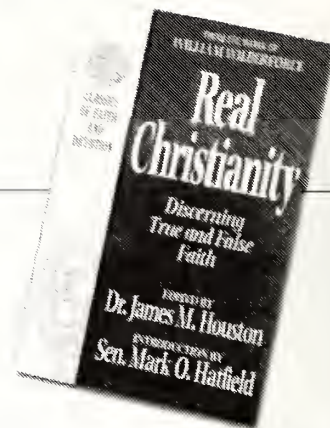
### Inadequate Conceptions of Practical Christianity

Wilberforce believed that people who gave a "general assent to Christianity and a degree of morality in practice" (43) were not much different from a "good deist, Moslem, or Hindu" (43). This was an inadequate conception of practical Christianity. Such people were merely "nominal Christians" (44). Christianity in this light is reductive. How?

First, Christianity is reduced "to a mere creed" (45). Such a "careless attitude" (45) may raise the level of morality but certainly not reach the eternal soul. Such an inadequate attitude may not change the heart in practical pursuits of self-interest. Such an inadequate conception places us in the center of a system that we create for ourselves, not for God. Wilberforce cries out: "We become our own masters . . . Whatever we have is regarded more as a property than a trust. If there is permanent claim, an occasional acknowledgment of its nominal right satisfies us" (54).

### Practical Hints for Real Christianity

What are some practical hints for real Christianity? Wilberforce begins with a "cardinal point on which the whole of Christianity turns" (87). He writes: "Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). The nature of that holiness which the true Christian seeks



to possess is none other than the restoration of the image of God in his soul. Obtaining it depends entirely on the operation of God's Holy Spirit. The true Christian knows therefore that this holiness does not precede his reconciliation with God, and then be its cause. But he has to follow, and be its effect. In short, it is by faith in Christ alone, faith marked by repentance of sin" (87).

When, then, are the practical hints for real Christianity to follow this cardinal point? Wilberforce tells us these: (1) Reflect with true repentance. (2) Examine all levels of self-deception. (3) Be watchful of concerns over worldly things. (4) Withdraw from the crowd, pray, and meditate. (5) Look to Christ in all things done or thought or felt. (6) Always be aware of personal corruption. (7) Practice the love of God among people. (9) Move from Christianity as a "system of restraint" (123) to Christianity as the "principle of the love of God" (123). (10) Recognize this world is not our resting place, for Christian hope is in the "promised day" (124).

### Conclusion

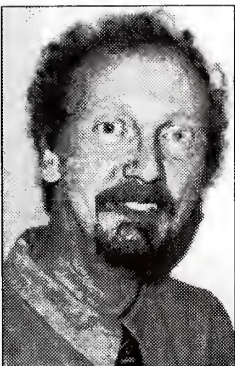
Wilberforce feared the decline of England and called for a renewal of real Christianity. At the end of his book, he rebuked the "irreligion and the decline in morals" (130) in England and called forth the true Christian to come and "give some remedy" against the rapidly declining nation. His last words pleaded: "May there be here in this nation a place where the name of Christ is still honored and men may see the blessings of faith in Jesus. May the means of religious education and consolation once again be extended to surrounding countries and to the world at large" (131). ❖



# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning

*Source: Christian architecture of the Manta Iron Church. Manta, Ecuador. School of Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel (1832-1923).*



**I**t is important not to confine our sense of Christian art to only paintings, drawings, and prints. We must also consider the church buildings themselves as artistic expressions of faith. In a true sense,

the buildings are sculpture, materials grouped or arranged in a particular way to be both functional and artistic. These buildings are also historical, for they reflect the styles and materials that were popular at the time they were built. Every congregation takes great pride in the expression of their faith under the protection of the building in which they worship.

## Artistic Style

The Iron Church in Manta, Ecuador, is a unique example of an architectural style. To look down the center aisle of this spacious church and see the beautiful contrast of the coloration and forms which are present, one might not be aware of the uniqueness of the structure.

This iron church was totally prefabricated. This was done over a century ago by the first of the famous structural engineers, Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel (1832-1923). We associate the work of this architectural genius with the construction of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. However, Eiffel's firm also made many other types of buildings from cast metal for a variety of functions.

Yes, most of the elaborate decoration that we see in this picture is made of

iron. The pews are not and the floor is not, but the remainder is iron.

The form of the building is derived from examples of Gothic chapels, with the extremely elevated and sharply pointed ceiling, the clearstory windows just above the supporting columns, the traditional ornamental embellishments like the quatrefoils (ornamental foliation of four lobes), and the pointed Gothic windows which run along the sides and just behind the altar.

The lancet-pointed devices which surround the shield holding the cross almost in the center of the photograph also is reminiscent of the ornaments in stone of the Gothic cathedrals of Paris.

This building was shipped in parts and was assembled on site. There are other examples of churches throughout the world by this firm. However, the Iron Church in Manta is one of the most beautiful.

## Symbolism

The extreme height of the ceiling has been traditionally recognized to represent artistically the yearning of the believer for the loftiness and highness of heaven as well as the faith of the

believer's thoughts beyond this world and self, literally pointing toward the Heavenly sphere.

The light coming from the clearstory is coming through windows with three panes, symbolizing the Trinity that light comes by the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We see that symbolism of three repeated in other embellishments throughout the building.

However, the most predominant forms are the four-lobed figures within the circles above the pews. They remind us of the cross, the four gospels, and the four corners of the earth to which the gospel has gone. The remaining space in the circle is taken up by a three-pointed form around the edge, symbolizing once again the Trinity.

## Conclusion

We are very affected by the buildings in which we worship. By a church's plainness, we can be moved to a more contemplative and inward understanding of our faith. By more elaborate churches, we are drawn out of ourselves to discover the elements of our beliefs in architectural forms as we share this in worship together. ❖



5/22/2006

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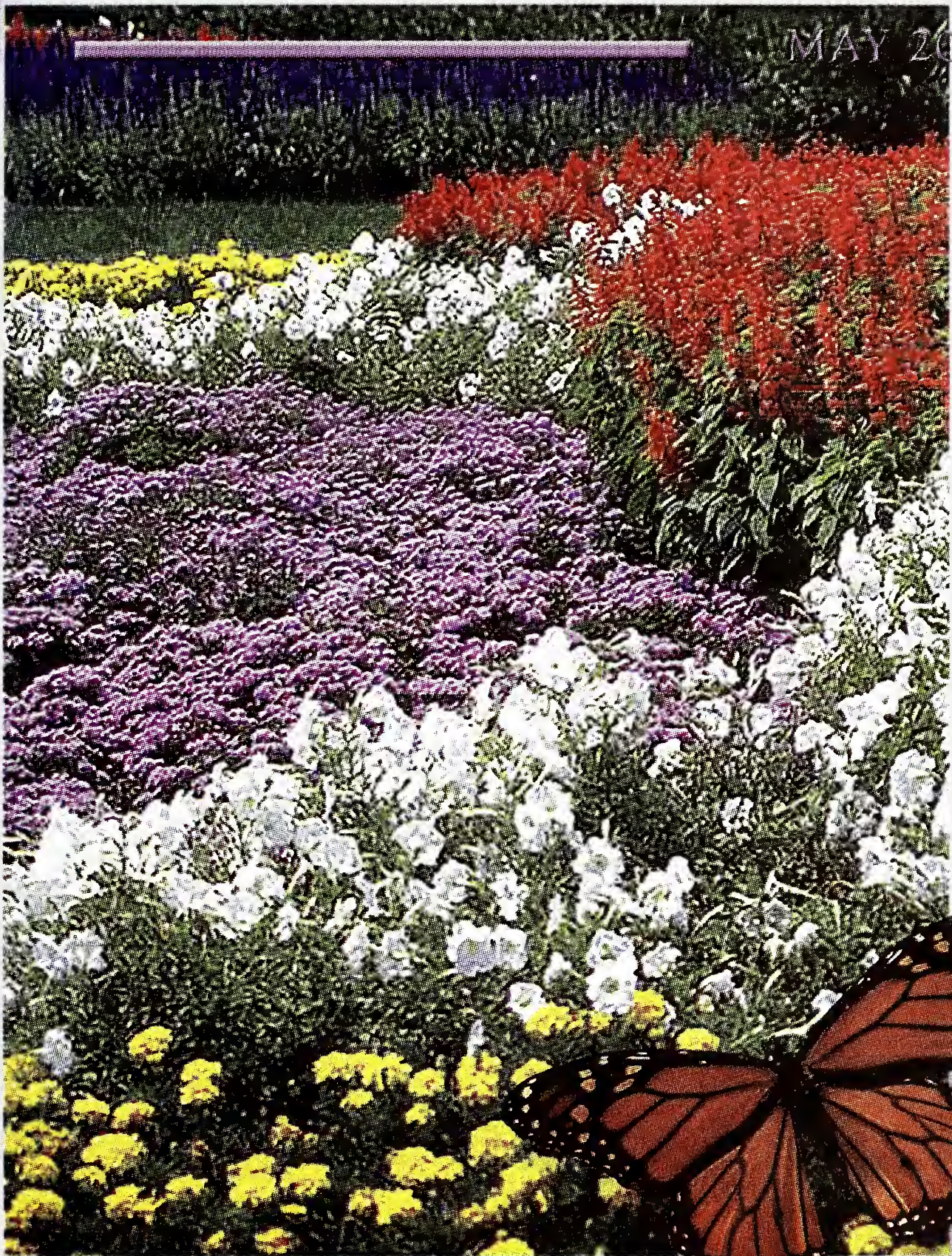
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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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Remember Mother's Day, May 13



## The Dignity of the Ministry

**D**oes a minister's calling set him (or her) apart from others? Is the fact that God has chosen a person for a special work mean that more is expected of such a person? Is the role of a minister any different from others who serve God in the capacity of a layperson? Most everyone would answer yes to all these questions, thus agreeing that a call to ministry is a special calling—a calling of high expectations, but not unattainable or unreasonable.

It is clear from all Biblical accounts that God's servants were especially ordained and set apart in service to God. God arrested Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus and declared, "...he is a chosen vessel unto me,..." (Acts 9:15). As with all His servants, much was required of Paul. How did he feel about it? He felt unworthy, considering himself to be "...less than the least of all saints,..." (Ephesians 3:8). In other passages, Paul expresses his unworthiness; yet, he faithfully fulfilled his apostleship with resolve and dignity. His willingness to be made "...all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22), was his underlying principle in ministering to others. It worked! In doing so, Paul most certainly did not lower his standards, or compromise his beliefs, or degrade his apostleship.

The ministry is not a matter of simply choosing a vocation. While it is a profession, it is far more. It is entered into because each individual, in his or her own way and circumstances, has experienced the leadership of God's Spirit. In one way or another, God has spoken, and the only alternative is to respond to His divine call. Each individual feels unworthy, but also recognizes the dignity of the ministry and resolves to give it his or her best effort.

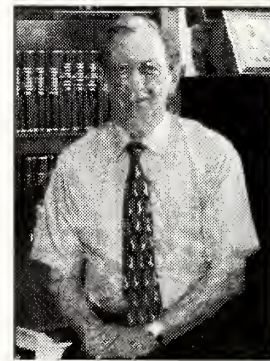
### My Ministerial Code of Ethics

From what we understand, a ministerial code of ethics existed for many years before the North Carolina Ministerial Association officially adopted an amended version in 1962. From time to time, someone will wonder why such a Code is necessary, that each minister should adhere to such ethical practices anyway. Indeed they should, however, some do not. Signing the Ministerial Code of Ethics does not guarantee an adherence to it. If there is a serious violation, there is record of the commitment to, and endorsement of, the Ministerial Code of Ethics.

The first paragraph reads: "I am a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ, called of God to proclaim the unsearchable riches of His love, therefore, I voluntarily adopt the following principles in order that through dedication and self-discipline I may set a more worthy example for those I seek to lead and serve."

## Editor's thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



The Code contains the following five sections: "I. My Personal Life; II. My Relationship to the Church(es) Which I Serve; III. My Relationship to My Denomination; IV. My Relationship with My Brother Ministers; V. My Public Relations." A total of forty-seven principles are set forth in the five sections. Section I contains seven principles. The last one states: "I will seek to dress in keeping with the dignity of the ministry." The definite implication and understanding stated here is that the ministry is a calling of dignity; therefore, let's consider it more closely. Why choose this one when it may seem of less importance than many of the others? Simply because our personal appearance (in neatness and attire) reveals a dignity reflective of our calling.

Is how one presents himself (or herself) really important? It must be, as evidenced in the dress codes of the military, in certain academies, professions, jobs, and workplaces, and especially in the high clergy. In job interviews applicants are advised to dress appropriately. Ministers, in fulfilling the function as a pastor, or some other area of ministry, should also dress in keeping with the dignity of their calling. More and more, our society has become a casual society. The wrinkled and unkempt look is appropriate in some situations. Jeans, t-shirts, etc., are appropriate at times and in certain places, but not in all places.

Ministers of the Gospel are under obligation to present themselves in keeping with the dignity of their profession. Some of our overly casually-minded members may regard us as one of the "good old boys" if we lower our standards. To this minister, it's pleasing to hear someone who has never seen us before say, "You look like a minister." More than likely it's because of our appearance—the way we are dressed. Personally, I have become more acceptable to the casual trend in some circumstances, but I still prefer a suit, tie, and white (or light colored) shirt when in the pulpit. When visiting members at home or in the hospital, I prefer to be neatly and appropriately dressed. After all, I am not representing myself, but the Lord whom I serve, my denomination, and the most noble profession on earth.





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All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*, PO Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

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MAY • Volume 118 • Number 5

Celebrating 128 Years  
1873-2001



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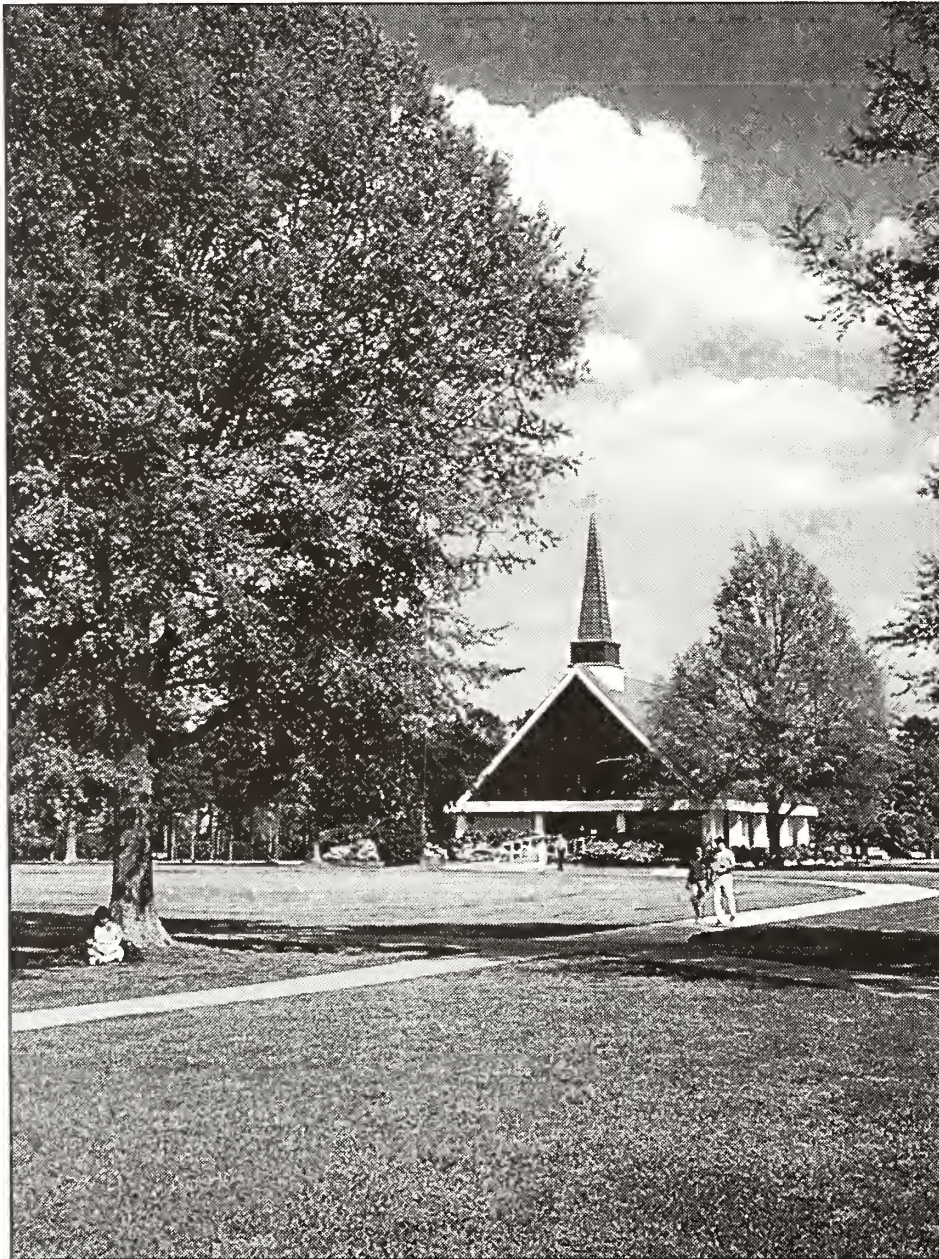
*May is Free Will Baptist Children's Home Month*



# 50 years of ministry

by Frank R. Harrison,  
Campus Minister,  
Mount Olive College

**M**ount Olive College is a ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and is dedicated to providing a distinctive program of Christian higher education. Its existence today is the fruit, labor, and dreams of Original Free Will Baptists who followed the leadership of God to establish a liberal arts Christian college in order to provide a sound academic program that was distinctively Christian in its philosophy and would serve the denomination.



At the thirty-ninth annual session of the State Convention of Churches of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, meeting at White Oak Church, Bladen County, September 12-13, 1951, the following statement and recommendation was adopted: "Due to the increased interest and the demand in the State of North Carolina among Free Will Baptist ministers and laymen for a feasible educational program, that will more adequately meet the present and future needs of our people in general, we, the Board of Christian Education, wish to make the following recommendations to the 1951 session of the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist State Convention, held with the White Oak Church, Bladenboro, N.C., September 12-13, that the Board of Christian Education consult and negotiate with the Board of Trustees at Cragmont Assembly and work out feasible plans to establish a Junior college during the winter months at Cragmont Assembly, with a view to establish, in connection with the Junior College, a Seminary later. That the beginning of the Junior College not be later than the school year of 1953. Signed, Board of Christian Education: the Rev. David W. Hansley, Chairman, Treasurer, the Rev. S. A. Smith, the Rev. R. H. Jackson, Mr. D. B. Sasser" (p. 15).

In the State Convention Report of 1952, the Board of Christian Education had obtained a charter for the incorporation and operation of Mount Allen Junior College, with the Rev. Lloyd Vernon, serving as president. It was open for its first academic year Septem-



ber 22, 1952, 10:00 am. The first College Catalogue, 1952-1953, speaks of its location as "... an ideal place for study and meditation, to inform the mind and heart for a better service to God and man" (p. 1). Further clarifying the objective of the College, the 1954-1955 catalogue further states, "... the College is to train and educate young men and women for Christian life and service, thus preparing them for useful vocations and successful living in the home, the church, the school, the community, and the world" (p. 11).

The College was moved to Mount Olive, NC, in September 1953, nearer the center of denominational strength in the eastern section of the state. Under the leadership of the Rev. David W. Hansley, Chairman of the Board of Directors, plans were made to develop a junior college offering programs in arts and sciences and in business. The Rev. W. Burkette Raper was elected president in the summer of 1954, and in September the College began its first year with an enrollment of twenty-two students.

*In 1956 the name "Mount Allen Junior College" was changed to "Mount Olive Junior College."*

In 1956 the name "Mount Allen Junior College" was changed to "Mount Olive Junior College." In that same year plans were launched for an enlarged campus which today consists of 138 acres. In September 1970, the College's name was officially changed to Mount Olive College.

The Convention of Original Free Will



Baptists requested, in 1977, that the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College work aggressively toward making the College a four-year institution.

The 1979 Session endorsed the projected timetable set by the College Board of Trustees to add the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. In 1986 Mount Olive College was officially accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a four-year institution to award associate and baccalaureate degrees.

An educational program began at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, NC, in 1975. Other campuses offering degree programs have opened in New Bern (1993), Wilmington (1995), and the Triangle area (1997).

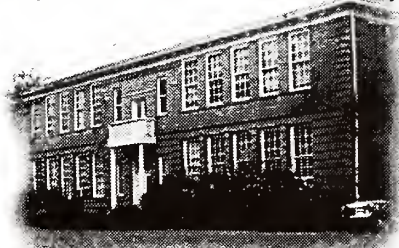
The transfer of all operations to the Mount Olive campus was completed in the fall of 1994, and the College's original downtown campus was sold.

In January 1995, the Board of Trustees selected Dr. J. William Byrd as the third president of Mount Olive College. Dr. Byrd assumed the duties of office on January 31 and was inaugurated on September 30, 1995.

The most important factor in any college is its philosophy of education -- what is it seeking to do? The answer to this question will help to determine what kind of teachers are employed, what is taught, and the very character of the college. President George Washington, some 200 years ago, saw the necessity of Christian education if freedom and democracy were to succeed when he wrote these words: "the future of this nation depends upon the religious education of the young."

From the "Statement and Purpose"

adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1980, it is clear that Mount Olive College was founded and dedicated to providing education that would be distinctively Christian and that will say to



all students that life has its highest meaning and fulfillment in a relationship to Jesus Christ. For this reason the College exists, and it is its relationship to the Original Free Will Baptist Church that the College gives the historical reason for its existence and continued purpose for being. Therefore, any and all decisions that affect the quality and the future of the College must be weighed in the balance of its stated philosophy and purpose, which includes the employment of faculty and personnel who will be in support of the mission of the College.

Dr. Arthur F. Holmes, in his excellent book, *The Idea of a Christian College*, gives to us this insight: "To confess God as Creator and Christ as Lord is thus to affirm his hand in all life and thought. It is to admit that every part of the created order is sacred, and that the Creator calls us to exhibit his wisdom and power both by exploring the creation and developing its resources and by bringing our own created abilities to fulfillment .... All of life with its culture and its learning must be penetrated with Christian perspectives, if Jesus Christ is to be made Lord of all. All of a young person's human potential must be as fully developed as possible, if the stewardship of his life is to honor God. The Christian has a mandate in education" (p. 29).

From small beginnings, came the vision that set forth the birth and development of Mount Olive College as a Christian college dedicated to the ministry of Christian higher education. It is a ministry born of God, sustained by God, and used of God for His will and purpose to help young men and women be all they can be by His grace as they seek to prepare themselves in all vocations and walks of life. ❖



# A Tribute to Mothers



by Dixie McLawhorn,  
Editorial Assistant, Free Will Baptist Press

**M**others are the most special people on the face of this earth. We've heard it said a million times and our reaction is, "Yes, that's right." But have you ever really thought about that statement? Do you really believe it? Do you ever think it true of your mother? Has time taken away the consideration of your mother? Do you stop to think of all the sacrifices she has made in order to see to it that you have been able to live your life with all the pleasures you wanted?

She cared for you before you were born. She visited her doctor regularly, took her vitamins, and watched her diet. She lovingly prepared the special room you would one day occupy. She cried when you were born, when you took your first step, when you left for your first day of school. Her heart swelled when you accomplished your goals, however great or small, in school or at church.

cont. on page 15

## A New Beginning for Miss Knox

by Carla Combs,  
Editorial Assistant, Free Will Baptist Press

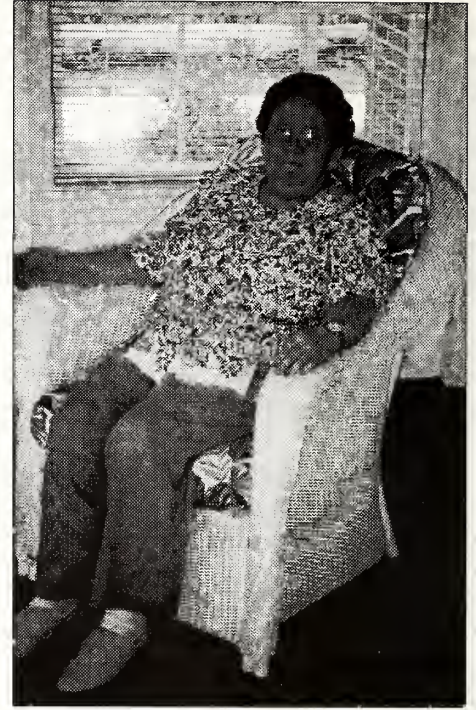
**M**agdalene Knox, a member of Hickory Grove Original Free Baptist Church in Pitt County, has found a new home and a brand new beginning.

Miss Magdalene recently moved into Spring Arbor Assisted Living Center in Greenville, NC, and says she is thoroughly enjoying it. She lived her whole life in Robersonville with her parents, Jim and Mamie Knox and her 6 brothers and 4 sisters. Miss Magdalene never married and chose to live her adult years helping her parents tend their farm until her father died. She took care of her brother's children as well. Just a few years ago, Magdalene lost her beloved mother. She continued living in the family home and stayed with elderly people as a job. Like many senior citizens, Miss Magdalene reached a point of making a decision on where and how she wanted to spend her "Golden Years."

"After my mother died a few years ago in Robersonville, I took jobs sitting with elderly people for a little while. In time I became a bit lonely living by myself. The way things are today, I didn't feel as safe by myself. I really missed being around people and talking to them. I told my sister Lucy (Copeland) about it and she said she would try to help me," said Magdalene.

Mrs. Copeland is also a member of Hickory Grove and according to Magdalene, Lucy and her son Tim Copeland searched for possible living alternatives for her. She says they learned about Spring Arbor and took her for a visit of the facility. "I really liked it and decided that this was going to be the place for me. I moved in just a few weeks ago. It has been an adjustment and I'm still not quite used to it, but I'm learning, I'm getting there."

Most of the rooms in the center are furnished for two residents while provid-



ing as much independence and privacy as possible. The dining hall, parlors, and recreation room are attractively decorated to give the residents a warm, homelike atmosphere. Magdalene says that there are plenty of activities going on all the time and participating is a good way to meet other residents.

Magdalene says that she has had a lot of visitors, including her church family. "Churches and especially the pastors should try to help people cope with moving into a home like this. Coming by and visiting and just simply talking means so much." She emphasizes that Spring Arbor allows residents many opportunities to worship on Sundays and weeknight services and gospel singings. "I really enjoy those."

Magdalene says she would advise anyone to consider an assisted living center as an alternative living arrangement as one grows older.

*From time to time, The Free Will Baptist will feature articles on older Americans, particularly members of Original Free Will Baptist churches. Readers will be enlightened about the many issues and concerns senior citizens must face in their daily lives and how churches can provide them with the support and love they need. ❖*



## Change For Children 2001

We have launched our fifth year of the "Change For Children" campaign. Our previous four years have been a huge success, thanks to you and many Free Will Baptists who saved their change for the children. The "Change For Children" campaign has increased awareness of our childcare ministry and generated financial support for crucial months during the summer.

This year, we would again like to encourage our churches to begin the month of May by inviting everyone to save their change. In April, churches received information, collection bags, and bulletin inserts.

We request that you:

- Pray for the Children's Home ministry.
- Encourage each family in your church to save their change during Children's Home month. We will provide change bags for everyone.
- Designate a Sunday in May as Children's Home Sunday.
- Support the Children's Home in this campaign.

This opportunity will:

- Encourage families to work together collecting their change.
- Provide youth and new members the opportunity to learn about the Children's Home.
- Increase awareness of your childcare ministry.
- Increase financial support from churches.

Please keep our ministry in your prayers, as we continue to serve more children and families. The support you give us makes a difference in the lives of children. Thank you for caring and sharing. ❖

*Remember To Mark Your Calendars:*

*Friends Of Children Day  
Saturday, November 10, 2001*

**Whitley Center**



A special thanks to Mr. Sterling Skinner for delivering this exceptional gift on March 6, and especially for his hard labor and time in making this gift so very unique. Above Mr. Skinner (center) presents the keys

to Dr. Bobby Taylor (right) and Mr. Don Batchelor (left) for a golf cart he reconditioned through the collaboration of Latte's Golf Carts. Mr. Skinner is an alumni of the Children's Home (1937-1973). ❖

## Campus Summer Plans

Our children are getting very excited anticipating the end of the school year and the arrival of summer. School ends May 23 and our summer recreation program is being scheduled. Summer plans are a trip to the N.C. Zoo, bowling, crafts, swimming, tennis, skating, cookouts, and movies. Many visiting groups have already made their plans for providing our residents with campus cookouts and games. This summer will definitely prove to be one of excitement, fun, and time with friends and family ❖



## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Products             | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Care Items        | <input type="checkbox"/> Playstation Games ( <i>Jeopardy</i> , <i>Winnie The Pooh</i> , <i>Ms. Pac Man</i> )          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet Cleaning Machine    | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Wooden Glider Swings   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Pencils   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upright Vacuum Cleaners    | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Games ( <i>Bible Bingo</i> , <i>Girl Talk</i> , <i>Operation</i> , <i>Battleship</i> ) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher Detergent       | <input type="checkbox"/> Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning Brushes           | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry Supplies   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Dictionaries         | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning Supplies  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gym Bags                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pole Lamps   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Pencil Sharpeners | <input type="checkbox"/> Encarta 2001 CD Rom  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tall Table Lamps           | <input type="checkbox"/> Encyclopedia   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desk Lamps                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Electric Griddles    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large Electric Fry Pans    |   |



## Alumna Has Unique Perspective on College's History

As Mount Olive College approaches its fiftieth Anniversary, alumni, students, faculty, and friends, have begun reflecting on the founding of the institution and what it has come to mean to the community. One alumna, Cathy Wallace Crumpler, has a unique perspective of the College as she looks back at her affiliation with the institution during the past 25 years.

Cathy, a native and resident of Duplin County, describes herself as being in "awe" over the changes that she has seen take place at Mount Olive College. Having first attended MOC in the 70s, Cathy has seen the College in action as a two-year and a four-year institution in a way that most students have not. Cathy has received two degrees from the College. She received her associate's degree in 1975 when the College was a two-year institution and her bachelor's degree in 1986, the year the College graduated its first four-year class.

Cathy originally came to Mount Olive College after having attended a spiritual life retreat the summer following her senior year in high school. On the retreat, she met the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister and several Mount Olive students, who were members of an ensemble called *The New Creations*. Upon hearing Cathy sing, the group encouraged her to attend Mount Olive College and join *The New Creations*. She enrolled that fall.

Cathy recalls that her closest friends were made through *The New Creations*. She enjoyed having her first bit of independence, yet still living close enough to take her friends home for some of her mama's cooking. She recalls a split campus with the residence halls and Henderson Building (classroom building) being located on Henderson Street and the cafeteria and other buildings remaining at the old campus on Breazeale Avenue. Rodgers Chapel was

constructed during Cathy's time at the College.

Graduating from Mount Olive College with an associate of science degree in 1975, Cathy immediately began work-



ing with the federal migrant program at B.F. Grady School in Duplin County. The following year, she married a former Mount Olive classmate, Joe Crumpler, a minister in the Free Will Baptist denomination. The couple was soon asked to serve as house parents at the denomination's Children's Home in Middlesex, North Carolina.

After leaving the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in 1977, Cathy and Joe became parents to a daughter, Sarah, in 1980. Cathy began teaching ceramics classes at James Sprunt Community College and the Council for the Aging in Kenansville.

Having always wanted a four-year degree, Cathy was among the first to enroll in 1984 when the College added its initial junior class. Cathy was now a commuter and she was no longer in classes with students her own age.

"I had a class with one of my 'children' from the Children's Home, so that was a little different, but I felt well received as an older adult student and found Mount Olive College to be just as great as I had remembered," Cathy said. "The professors still gave that loving, personal touch and were willing to help me in any way they could."

Cathy graduated for the second time

from Mount Olive College in 1985 with a bachelor of science degree in Church Ministries. In 1986, she began teaching art with Duplin County Public Schools while attending East Carolina University to fulfill requirements for her teaching certificate.

Cathy has remained in affiliation with Mount Olive College through the years. She has served as the Alumni Association's president and as a member of the Alumni Board. Cathy has also been instrumental in coordinating *New Creations* reunions and alumni weekends.

"I have always felt ownership in the College since I was raised in the Free Will Baptist denomination. I tell the students I teach at East Duplin High School to consider Mount Olive College when they graduate. I'm proud to say that my daughter, Sarah, is now a student at the College," Cathy noted.

Sarah, a sophomore majoring in visual communications, is just as impressed with the College as her mother was in the 70s and 80s. Both mother and daughter are particularly pleased with the art program and faculty within the department. Cathy also notes that the trees on campus have grown tremendously since her times at the College, adding to the beautiful atmosphere.

"I would and do tell anyone looking for a college, that Mount Olive College is my only choice," Cathy said. "No college I have had experience with has the love and warmth I feel at Mount Olive. The faculty at the College have helped me feel like I can do whatever task is set before me. Mount Olive College is my home away from home. I always felt safe and secure and within minutes of someone who cared. Where else would you have a college professor go into a restaurant and find you and your roommate under a table looking for a contact lens and then have him join you in your search? Nowhere, except Mount Olive College." ❖



## Student Gains Valuable Experience Through Internship

**A**llicyn Bryan of Goldsboro first became interested in a psychology career while taking an introductory course under Dale White at Wayne Country Day School. Now, four years later, she plans to graduate from Mount Olive College in May with a bachelor of science degree in psychology and valuable experience in the field.

After graduating from Wayne Country Day in 1997, Allicyn enrolled at Mount Olive College, where she was pleased to find a psychology program that she knew would prepare her for any job within her field of study. During one of the College's Career Awareness Weeks, she attended a seminar titled "What You Can Do With a Psychology Degree." The seminar was led by Rhonda Wiggins, a graduate of Mount Olive College, and Early Childhood Intervention Program Coordinator.

"Mrs. Wiggins announced the need

for an intern and after the seminar I spoke with her and gave her my address," Allicyn said. "I sent my resume and went through the interview process. I began work as an intern in January."



Working approximately ten hours a week, Bryan, along with other coordinators at Early Childhood Intervention, works with children that have cognitive, social, or emotional disabilities in the home, at day care centers, and at Head Start.

"My internship has been beneficial to my learning experience. It was interesting to work in a clinical setting and apply the techniques that I have been taught in my psychology classes," she said. "All the experiences, clinical and classroom, will be beneficial to my future career goals."

Bryan is the daughter of Stan and Debbie Griffith. She is a member of Stoney Creek Church, Wayne County. ❖

## Career Fair

**A**pproximately 220 students, faculty, and staff attended the tenth annual career fair held at Mount Olive College. Graduating seniors and underclassmen met with representatives of over 70 companies, five graduate schools, as well as interview for job positions and summer internships.

"The career fair is an excellent opportunity for our students to network with employers in an informal setting," Linda Greenwood, director of advisement and career development at the College said. "I was pleased to see so many of our alumni representing their companies at this event."

*Carrie Brown, a member of Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Nash County, discusses*

*graduate school plans with Dr. Max Poole from East Carolina University. Carrie is a senior majoring in English.* ❖



## Christianity, The Law, And The Ultimate Crisis of Life Lecture Held

**M**embers of the Free Will Baptist denomination, community members, faculty, staff, and students recently gathered at Mount Olive College for a lecture entitled *Christianity, the Law, and the Ultimate Crisis of Life: Perspectives on Aging, Sorrow, Fatal Illness, Health Care, and Death*. The event was funded by the Barrow Family Endowed Fund for Christian Ministries.

The Revs. Harmon Smith, James Craven, and Bruce Dudley were guest lecturers. Mr. Smith spoke on the moral issues surrounding the right to die and manner and time of dying and death. Mr. Craven discussed the legal definition of death, autopsies, cremation, funerals, and the disposition of one's estate. Mr. Dudley concluded the event with a video presentation and comments concerning the importance of advanced preparation for long-term parental care.

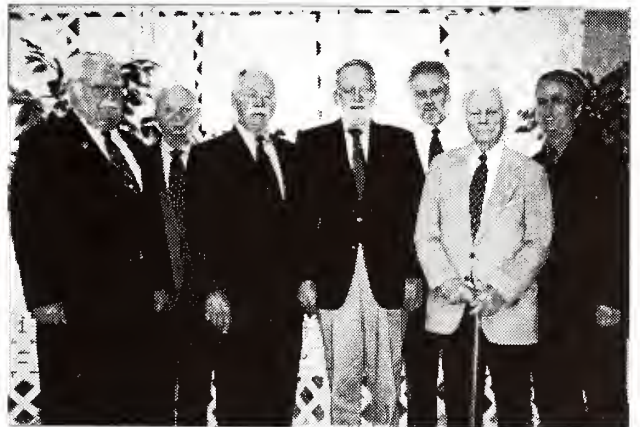
## SACS Visits For 10-Year Reaffirmation

**M**ount Olive College was visited March 18-21, 2001, by a Visiting Committee from the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This was the regular ten-year visit for reaffirming the accreditation of the College by the Southern Association.

The visit and review of the self-study prepared by the College were positive and did not reveal any issues not already known and in process for improvement. The number of recommendations and suggestions was small for such visits and College personnel were pleased with the strengths recognized by the Visiting Committee during the exit report.

A final written report will be received by the College in May, and the College will prepare a written response. Final action on the reaffirmation will be taken at the December meeting of the Commission on Colleges. ❖

Mr. Smith is a retired professor of moral theology and professor of community and family medicine at Duke University. Mr. Craven practices law in Durham. Mr. Dudley is the director of the Retirement Homes Ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.



*Above: The Revs. Bruce Dudley; Frank Harrison, campus minister; Dr. Harmon Smith; Dr. James Craven; Dr. Lloyd Bailey Sr., Barrow Professor of Religious Studies; the Rev. Bruce Barrow, former member of Board of Trustees; and Dr. David Hines, chair, Department of Religion.* ❖



## Pittman Family Endowed Fund Established

**T**he Carol S. and Charles W. Pittman III Family Endowed Fund was established by Carol and Buddy Pittman through the College's Charitable Giving through Life Insurance Program and a direct gift.

By naming the College owner and beneficiary of a life insurance policy, the premiums are tax-deductible gifts in the year in which they are made. Upon maturity, the assets of the policy can be assigned to an endowed fund. Another advantage of charitable giving through life insurance is that the proceeds of the policy do not go through probate and are not subject to estate taxes and administrative costs.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools has encouraged the College to convert the promissory notes held by friends of the College into a structured form of debt retirement. Many friends made a gift of all or part of their notes to the College or converted them to a life-income fund which will pay income to them for life, after which the assets will be assigned to an endowed fund. The Pittmans made a gift of their note to the College for their endowment.

Mr. Pittman has served on the Board



of Trustees of Mount Olive College since 1979 when he was elected by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He currently serves as Chair of the Business Affairs Committee.

He is Deputy City Manager of the City of Wilson and Carol teaches at Rock Ridge Elementary School. Carol and Buddy are active in Daniel's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson. They are the parents of two adult children, Walt and Glenda and one granddaughter. ❖

## MOC to Hold Spring Commencement

**M**ount Olive College's forty eighth commencement will be held on Saturday, May 12.

Worship service with the Rev. Stephen Prescott will be held in Rodgers Chapel at 10:30 AM. Commencement exercises will follow after lunch at 2:00 PM with Dr. Charles R. Coble as keynote speaker. ❖

## Students Attend Retreat at Camp Vandemere

**M**embers of Dr. Tyanna Day's Devotional Classics Class recently attended a retreat held at Camp Vandemere. The class provides students with a historical and interpretive study of the great devotional classics of the Christian Church and applies it to contemporary times.

During the retreat, students discussed several devotional classics surrounding the importance of friendships to one's walk with God. Students also enjoyed times of worship and relaxation on the campgrounds and a study of the use of icons in the church. ❖

## 50th Jubilee Celebration Scheduled

**J**oin us as we celebrate Mount Olive College's fiftieth year of higher education, with food, entertainment, guest speakers, and special recognitions on Saturday, November 17, 2001. The event also coincides with the College's Annual Alumni Weekend which includes the Pickle Classic Basketball Tournament, alumni reunions, art exhibits, and performances by the Mount Olive College Singers and the Mount Olive College Concert Choir.

Mark your calendar. This will be a date you will not want to miss—the Mount Olive College Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Weekend! ❖

*Below: Jane Merritt of Sampson County; Marci Rollins of First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro; Hollis Phelps of Columbia, South Carolina; and Charles Waters Jr. of New Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County.*





# News and Update

## Home Missions

### Living Faith Mission/Church, Landis, NC

Home Missionary Rev. Wayne Watson reports great progress in this mission work near Kannapolis. In November 2000, a church facility, including a family life building, was purchased from the Landis Church of God for \$200,000. The property has been appraised at \$353,000. Since January 2001, the attendance has steadily increased from 30 to a high of 85. New people are visiting the mission every week. Living Faith's Sunday School was officially started the first Sunday in March with 40 in attendance, and they baptized 5 individuals that evening at their first baptismal service. Praise the Lord!

Many have helped Living Faith launch their Sunday School by supplying needed items. The mission currently needs a sound system for the sanctuary. If you would like to help provide a sound system for Living Faith Mission Church, please contact Home Mission and Evangelism.

### Charity Mission/Church, Whiteville, NC

This mission is located in a city that is a field ripe unto harvest. Currently, Charity is without a Director/Pastor. Mr. and Mrs. Owen Ward are faithfully serving as lay leaders for the Sunday Bible Study and other necessary responsibilities. Pray for the capital city of Columbus County. Pray for Charity Mission and that God will help it to become a life-giving church in the community. Pray for laborers to serve on the Whiteville, NC mission field.

### Covenant Mission/Church, Hope Mills, NC

Our newest Home Missionary Team, the Rev. James Corbett and his wife Susan, are now serving Covenant Mission. Much progress has been made at this mission. The people have taken a lot of interest in doing all they can to improve the appearance and condition of their



facility. An effort is ongoing to reach out to new people, and I am glad to say it is working. Four individuals are awaiting baptism. The people continue to pray and work diligently. This mission is now a blended congregation with deaf and hearing. Marin Bandel serves as a sign language interpreter and translator jointly in church services and ministry. The Covenant congregation is thankful for what God has done and they are excited about the future.

### Sunrise Landing Mission/Church, Point Harbor, NC

There is good news from the coastal mission field at the Outer Banks: Sunrise Landing's Bible Study/Prayer Group meeting on Thursday evening has had 18 in attendance. Currently without a missionary director/pastor, the Revs. James Owens and Royce Reynolds have been helping with teaching at the Bible Study. The land has been cleared and worship facility should be on site soon. Pray for the Sunrise Landing subdivision community of twenty-eight families. Pray for a new missionary to serve this mission point. Praise the Lord for the people's excitement and commitment to this outreach!

### Havelock, NC

A new beginning is being planned for this mission field. Pray for partnerships that will yield new missionary / church planters and adequate funding to expand.

### Florida-Georgia

Doors continue to open for mission work in these two states. Pray for part-

nerships that will yield new missionary / church planters and adequate funding to expand.

## Ethnic Missions

### H'mong-NC, CA, MN, NV, UT, OR

Our partnership with the Lao Evangelical Church of America continues to yield much fruit. The H'mong brethren are moving forward in church planting, church growth, and evangelism. Dr. Graham Lane, Home Missions Ethnic Ministry coordinator, reports that the H'mong Youth Camps in California and North Carolina had over 160 in attendance with over 45 youth receiving Jesus Christ. Pray for June and August 2001 Youth Camps.

### Lao/Cambodian-Moreno Valley, CA

Cambodian Mission/Church in Moreno Valley, CA is our multiethnic congregation led by missionary Rev. Kittu Rojratanakiat and his wife Betty. Pray for this mission group of 30 to 40 as they worship and work to reach others with the gospel.

## Hispanic Missions

The fastest growing population group in many of our communities is the Hispanic people. Currently, Oriental Original Free Will Baptist Church and Home Missions are partnering to establish a Hispanic Mission/Church at their facility. Mexican layman Raul Cruz will be coordinating this work and other outreach ministry in the region. If your church is interested in hosting or being involved directly with a Hispanic Mission through Vacation Bible Schools, Bible Studies, and other evangelism projects, please contact the Home Missions and Evangelism office. Pray for a harvest of souls as ministry teams are coordinated and mobilized.

*For more information on any of the above programs, please contact your Department of Home Missions and Evangelism at P. O. Box 39, Ayden, North Carolina 28513, (252) 746-4963. ❖*



## Christmas and Thanksgiving Celebration



by Sister Esther Garcellano

**T**he Lord is always great and wonderful, especially to those His children.

On December 17, 2000, we celebrated our Christmas party and the same time our Thanksgiving day here in Canigaran Free Will Baptist Church. These activities were attended with many believers who came from the different churches.

We had presentations like the interpretative musical drama by the Puerto Church Young People. A drama was also performed by the new church members who came from the Canigaran outreach at Irawan, but the most wonderful was the children's choir conducted by Mrs. Esther Garcellano.

There was plenty of food, prepared by the faithful women in the church, together with the young people.

I'm so glad to think that God is really good to us and always giving for our needs, like the church building at Canigaran. Little by little it was constructed. This time the right side wall as well as the back stage wall was already in hallow block formation. This was the goodness and greatness of God, as well as the members who have a heart to give to their church building fund.

As a member of this church, I believe that someday we can build a wonderful church by the help of God.

Please pray for our projects here in Canigaran Free Will Baptist Church—basketball court, kindergarten building, and church building development. Glory be to God! ❖



L to R: The Rev. Gary Bailey, Dr. William Bennett, the Revs. Harold Jones, and Dr. Don Ribeiro.

## A Great World Missions Conference

by Harold Jones

**D**he Annual World Missions Conference, sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions, was held on February 18, at Mount Olive College. The attendance was just over 500. The Ormondsville Praise Team and Dr. Don Ribeiro, blessed those in attendance with uplifting special music.

Dr. William Bennett emphasized the importance of missions' giving for the growth of the local church and preached on the importance of prayer, with special emphasis on *The Prayer of Jabez*. I recommend that everyone get a copy of the tapes. They will bless your heart and enrich your life. (Tapes are available by contacting the Rev. Doug Skinner, 817 Lynn Drive, Durham, NC 27703 or by phone at 919-596-2456.) The cost of the tapes is \$8 per set.

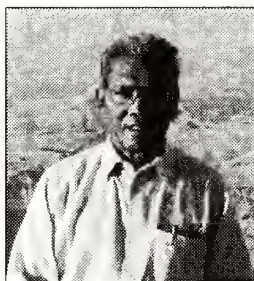
I also encourage you to purchase the book *The Prayer of Jabez*. It is a powerful "little" book with deep spiritual insight. You will be encouraged and blessed. It is available at all Free Will Baptist Bookstores.

God bless you as you listen, read, and pray. ❖

## Special Prayer Request

**D**r. E. M. Lall had spinal surgery the first of March at the Apollo Hospital in Delhi, India. He was in the operating room for eight and one-half hours. His condition was very serious. I hope by the time you read this, that he is back home and well on his way to recovery. Please continue to hold him up in prayer.

His oldest son, Anil, and his wife, Bumpy, graduated from seminary on March 17. He has been appointed Deputy Moderator and is looking after the affairs of



the church. God's timing is perfect. He knew five years ago the events of these days and called this fine couple into His ministry. The Board of Foreign Missions supported them while in seminary. Please remember them in prayer as they step into this role of leadership. ❖





# News Letter From East Europe

by Willem Van der Plas

**W**e still look back to the time we were with you in North Carolina. You truly encouraged us and opened our minds to serve to the utmost in this part of the world.

In our opinion, there was never a time in our human history that demanded the proclamation of the Crucified and Risen Lord than today. Many Christian believers have no answer if you ask them "Do you love the Lord?" They believe that the Lord needs to love them under all circumstances. They fulfill their duties by going to church and that is it.

The International European News Media proclaim daily that we have arrived in the post-Christian age. Genetic discoveries, cloning, and technical development increased the human arrogance and drives many people away from their belief in the Almighty God and the need for Salvation in Jesus Christ. Do you also believe that Christianity has reached the finish? Is the "truth" and the "judgment" in the hands of the news media?

When we came to America in 1980, I told the believers in the Church of Arapahoe how the believers in Holland began to drift away from the Lord. Nowadays we see a similar attitude developing in our beloved USA. Many West Europeans are choking in their wealth. The true Christian spirit is dying rapidly and is overruled by rationalism. Since the second World War there are no signs of revival in the churches. During the fifties and the sixties the churches in my birthplace were loaded with people. The total population then was about 35,000 people. In the six Reformed churches was an attendance of over 25,000 believers per Sunday. Nowadays there are no more than 200 to 500 attending per worship service, depending on which preacher is speaking.

Holland is now one of the three wealthiest countries of the world. The population of 15 million, spent in December more than 1.5 billion dollars to celebrate Santa Claus, Christmas, and New Year. Entertainment seems to make their lives interesting. Many people of my birthplace who used to worship the Lord weekly, now charter an airplane to go shopping in Berlin during the weekends. Former church-

goers are now floating on alcohol and games. Mankind suffers injustice and I see a growing unrighteousness among the poor of the earth. Where is the balance of worship, service, and entertainment?

Some weeks ago I was really shocked to see an evangelical program on TV in a room where all the furniture was gold painted. The barbarians even painted a grand piano in gold. These Christians seem to be in Heaven already. Seeing such a nonsense in Bulgaria made me feel disgusted. I got really angry when the speaker misused Deuteronomy 8:18 and said, "It is God who gives you the ability to produce wealth." What kind of gospel is this? Totally taken out of context, he skipped to say that this wealth consisted of water from the rock, manna from heaven, quails on the ground, and above all the presence of the Lord. He did not say that these words were spoken to Israel with the condition to be obedient to the Lord their God.

This program was broadcast in Bulgaria, where thousands of people live without employment, while the flu is taking lives, because the sick people cannot buy their medicaments. Many of the people live in one room and have no daily bread to eat. In Balchik, two soldiers and two young children died of this flu.

Dear brothers and sisters, do not be deceived by misuse of the Scriptures. Do not be attracted by senseless entertainment, by selfishness and egocentrism. Many of you encouraged us and we are very thankful. Remain in your faith and faithfulness to the Lord. Jesus once said to his disciples: "...He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; ... (John 14:12). Be attracted by true worship and service. Let us deny ourselves, our secondary needs, and take up our cross and follow Jesus. We all have a task in the world and we are allowed to proclaim the Gospel of Hope and Salvation to everybody who lives with us. Jesus truly came to the poor.

Let us boldly resist the claim that we live in a post-Christian era and mobilize the God-given power to spread the Word of God all over the world. Let us together



obey God's command to tell the nations about everlasting "life." Let us witness Jesus Christ (not glitter), but the evidence of life in Jesus Christ.

A twelve-year-old boy was asked: "Do you love God?" He answered, "A lot!" Then he was asked: "How much?" No answer. Again, "How much?" After about a minute he said: "I love God as much as water." Believe me that this was not cheap answer for a twelve-year-old boy who lives mainly on bread and water.

Let us together remain strong and balance our mind and spirit in faith and faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ and our Free Will Baptist denomination. All of see it as a high privilege to serve with you. ❖

## Short-Term Team Opportunities 2002

**N**ow is the time to pray and seek God's will concerning Short-Term Team mission service next year. We need to hear from you by September 30, 2001. This early date is necessary for planning and bookings.

### Team Dates 2002

*Philippines – April 13-29*, (12 member team, 18 years old and up).

*Mexico – June 16-23*, (30 member team, 13 years old and up). *July 13-21*, (30 member team, 13 years old and up). *August 3-11*, (12 member team, 18 years old and up).

Ministry opportunities: building project, VBS, skits, puppets, Bible studies, Christian fiesta, camping, and many others. A life-changing experience awaits you! Do not miss this great opportunity!

Act now to reserve your place on the team. Contact Board of Foreign Missions office for more information (252-746-4963). ❖



## The Cragmont Club

**T**he Cragmont Club was established in 1980 to help give Cragmont a cash flow throughout the year. Though some members give their donation in one lump sum, many members choose to make regular monthly or quarterly donations to Cragmont. Each year the Club brings in approximately \$30,000.00. While the Club offers certain benefits to members, the greatest benefit is the opportunity to support this ministry of the denomination and make a difference in the lives of many.

### The Plan

For \$10 per month you and your immediate family may spend a weekend or the equivalent of a weekend at Cragmont at no cost. To join the Club send in your first \$10 earmarked "Club."

### The Club Rules:

- You may use benefits while staying at Cragmont during a church retreat.
- You may use benefits if you are traveling in the area while on vacation.
- Benefits may not be used during regularly scheduled conferences.
- Benefits cover one room for two nights.
- Use of benefits is based upon availability of space.
- You must have been a member for one month before any benefits may be used.
- Meals will not be prepared unless there are 15 or more people staying at Cragmont and we are already preparing meals.
- Benefits may not be carried over into another year.

If you are interested in becoming a Cragmont Club member, send in your name, address, and phone number along with a check for \$10 (your first payment) made out to Cragmont and earmarked "Club." We also take MasterCard and Visa should you want to call in your information to our office at 828-669-7677.



*Above is a group of youth from Marsh Swamp Original Free Will Baptist Church at Cragmont for a winter retreat.*

### Volunteer Staff Needed

From time to time people will inquire about coming up to work a week, two weeks or the whole summer. So the idea surfaced in my mind—why not set aside some space in the motel and invite people who are interested to come and work? We are looking for those who would volunteer one week, two weeks, or more for the time period of June 10—July 29. As a volunteer you will get to see and participate in a week of camp and see first hand the importance of the ministry of Cragmont.

### What Is Needed

What is needed are people who are willing to mop floors, cook, serve food, clean rooms, cut grass, and the list goes on. The work is basic and can be physically demanding. During summer con-

ferences, campers arrive on Monday afternoon and stay until Saturday morning, making Saturday the big clean-up day. It is important that all staff be available to work on Saturday. There are great rewards of accomplishment in knowing that you have served the Lord through serving others. If you are interested in volunteering time to Cragmont, please contact John Williams at 828-669-7677. You can also reach us through e-mail at CragCom@aol.com.

### Hines Added to Cragmont Staff

The management of Cragmont Assembly is very pleased to announce the addition of the Rev. Bryant Hines to our staff as the director of the new marketing and programming position. ❖



# The First Ever Cragmont Golf Outing

If you like to play golf, we hope you will be interested in this trip. Two golf courses have been selected in the mountains within an hour's drive of Cragmont. Tentatively they are Blue Ridge Country Club at Linville and Grassy Creek Country Club at Spruce Pine.

You will drive to Cragmont on September 23. On Monday the 24th, after downing a famous Cragmont breakfast, we will strike out to play golf. After the day's round, you will come back to Cragmont for the evening meal. On the 25th, after breakfast, we will strike out for a different golf course and another

18 holes, returning to Cragmont for the evening meal. Entertainment is planned for Monday and Tuesday evenings. Wednesday the 26th you make the trip home.

The total cost of the trip is \$160 per person. We have room for 80 golfers. The cost includes: breakfast Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, evening meal Monday and Tuesday, two rounds of golf, three nights lodging, and transportation to the golf course. On the two days we play golf, you will be responsible for lunch on the course. ❖

✂

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711.

continued from page 6

Her heart nearly burst when you walked down the aisle of your church and asked the Lord into your heart. As she watched you mature into the strong, hard-working Christian, she gave thanks to God, who had lead her and guided her throughout the years of trials and tribulations she endured. She asked Him to watch over you as you sometimes stumbled with your *growing pains* at school, at church, and with life in general.

As you went off to college, got started on your career, married, and had children of your own, she was there whenever you needed her. She understood, even though it may have saddened her, when you couldn't make it over at Thanksgiving or Christmas.

While you were busy with your family, she silently watched in the background, ever ready to help out in any way she could.

## Churches & Ministers Available

NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)

**Croatan Original Free Will Baptist Church**, New Bern, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested is asked to contact Buster Hansen, (252) 447-4737.

**Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church**, Ayden, NC, is seeking a full-time Associate Pastor concentrating on Christian education and visitation. An ordained minister with a minimum of at least five years previous ministry experience and a four-year college degree is preferred. Please send resume and salary expectation to Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, 5043 Weyerhaeuser Road, Ayden, NC 28513.

**Reedy Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church**, Winterville, NC, is seeking a part-time youth minister. Any interested person is asked to contact the Rev. Philip Wood, (252) 756-3416, or Libby Williams, (252) 355-6255.❖

She always loved you. You were always at the top of her priority list (God was always first), and she never regretted for a moment the sacrifices she made for you.

If you are so blessed to still have your mother with you, let her know this Mother's Day that you love her, that you appreciate her, and thank her for all the love she has shown you.

Let her know that she is truly the most special person on earth. ❖





## Learning In The Summer

**T**he Coastal Mid-Atlantic Christian Education Association (MACEA) will hold its 2001 session on Saturday, August 18, 2001, at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, New Bern, NC. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM with workshops beginning at 9:00 AM and ending at 4:00 PM. There will be opportunity for each person to attend 5 workshops during the day. There will be approximately 40 workshops covering the general areas of Early Childhood, Elementary, Youth, Adult, Administration, Teacher Preparation, Church Growth/Missions, Drama, and General Interest. There will be something for everyone! Day Care workers will be granted CEU credit and certificates for workshops attended. The registration fee is \$20.00 per person which includes lunch and snacks.

The workshop leaders include: James Bearden, Christian Education Consultant from Standard Publishing Com-

pany; Mary Dudley, Director of the Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry; Clint Echols, Youth Pastor for Calvary Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC; Janet Garner-Mullins, Deacon in First Baptist Church-West, Charlotte, NC; Stephen James, Ministry Consultant for NextGen Ministries, Johnson City, Tennessee; Dr. John McMurphy, Curriculum Consultant, David C. Cook Church Ministries; Sherli Morgan, Central Church of God, Charlotte, NC; John Roller from the Advent Christian General Conference; Ted Wilbanks, Evangelical Training Association; Kay Wilbanks, Evangelical Training Association; Keith Letchworth and Hulon Whitehead for Breaking Bread Together; Rebecca King from Sandy Plain Original Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, NC; Dr. Mike Barnhill, licensed Original Free Will Baptist minister and attorney from New Bern, NC; Eddie Greg, President of New Life Semi-

nary in Charlotte, NC; Robert Caton, District President of the Disciples of Christ, Eastern NC; Bettie Robinson, Director for the Virginia Christian Education Association; Ron Richardson from Gospel Light, and others.

There will be displays of literature and other materials from Standard Publishing Company, Cook Communication Ministries, Gospel Light, Evangelical Training Association, New Life Seminary, Free Will Baptist Press, Classroom Connection, Excell Communications, Operation Christmas Child, Mount Olive College, Breaking Bread Together, MACEA, and others.

For further information, contact Mrs. Mary Dudley at Original Free Will Baptist Headquarters, PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. The phone number is (252) 746-4963 or e-mail at [ofwbconvhq@coastalnet.com](mailto:ofwbconvhq@coastalnet.com). ❖

***Come one, come all and experience learning  
in the summer!***



## Mount Zion Plans Layman's League

by Harold Humbles

On March 18, 2001, the State Layman's League President, Elmer Harrell, along with Harold Humbles, State Layman's League Secretary, met with the men of Mount Zion Original Free Will Church, Vandemere, NC, to plan for the organization of a Layman's League. The purpose and advantage of establishing a Layman's League were discussed. Pastor Greg Mills discussed his impression of how the Layman's League can benefit a church, pointing out how it "develops a closeness among the men, encourages young men to become involved in later years. The pastor's involvement in organizing and participating in each new league is the key to a successful and growing group of men, which most certainly pleases our Heavenly Father," he stated.

After the Mount Zion men have elected officers and set up meeting dates, a Layman's League Charter will be presented. They are especially invited to attend the Spiritual Life Retreat, June 1-2 at Camp Vandemere for a time of Christian fellowship. ❖

## An Open Letter To All Original Free Will Baptist Laymen

by Mike Scott

It has been my privilege to be involved with the Layman's League of Original Free Will Baptists on the local, district, and state levels for the past 18 years.

During that time I have watched men grow in the knowledge of the Lord, in their commitment to His work, in their desire to glorify His name, and in their willingness to labor in His Kingdom. The Layman's League should be viewed as a vital part of the local church and should be regularly attended and actively involved in the service of Christ's Kingdom. Please take a few moments to consider the following thoughts:

- If your church already has a Layman's League, become involved in it at the very next meeting. You will find a group of men who will welcome you with open arms and will pray for and support you during times of crisis.

- If your church doesn't have a Layman's League, you could be the very person that God has chosen to organize this important and exciting arm of service. Contact either your Pastor or one of the men listed at the bottom of this

letter and begin today to mobilize an army of men for Christ's service.

- If your local Layman's League is not involved in district and/or the state level, encourage your men to attend these meetings. It is through Christian fellowship that we are strengthened and encouraged, and at both the district and state meetings fellow believers come together to share and worship, which results in spiritual growth and development.

- A wonderful opportunity of revival and renewal awaits all Laymen at the annual Spiritual Life Retreat which will be held at Camp Vandemere beginning on Friday evening, June 1, 2001. A meal will be served beginning at 6:00 PM, which will be followed by song and testimonies, and the following morning (June 2) three important and informative topics will be presented. Encourage the laymen of your church to be present at this retreat.

The Layman's League is an important work in the Original Free Will Baptist Church, and you need to be involved in it. For information or help in any area of the work of the Layman's League, contact one of the following men. ❖

Elmer Harrell, President  
State Layman's League  
502 Southeast Third Street  
Snow Hill, NC 28580  
Phone: (252) 747-2894

Harold Humbles, Secretary  
State Layman's League  
919 Tripp-Grimsley Road  
Ayden, NC 28513  
Phone: (252) 746-4140

Mike Scott, Ministerial Advisor  
State Layman's League  
655 Piney Neck Road  
Vanceboro, NC 28586  
Phone: (252) 244-2245

Below: Mount Zion men plan new Layman's League.





# Camp Vandemere Our Family Enrichment Center

"To every thing there is a season..." (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

by Owen Arthur

This is the season to get out of the house and enjoy the outdoors. People are buying flowers, plants, seed, and turning their attention to the outdoors.

As you are turning your attention to getting out and enjoying the spring weather, let me encourage you to take time to visit Camp Vandemere. Take a ride down and enjoy a day or an afternoon at our camp. Walk out on the pier and just sit down, relax and spend some time in communion with the Lord. If you feel energetic, take one of the paddle boats out for a cruise on the river, or maybe go canoeing. This is the season to enjoy the Lord's blessings.

This spring has been busy for the camp. We have had several groups already, and other groups have plans to attend in the future. If you have not called and reserved your time, let me encourage you to do so. The weekends have a way of filling up and we wouldn't want you to miss out on your time. Memorial Day weekend will bring our first official camp for the summer. This will be Young People's Retreat directed by Ray and Ginny Connors of Newport. The following weekend will be the Layman's League Spiritual -Life Retreat, sponsored by the State Layman's League. These weekends are times of spiritual blessings, as well as times of good eating and Christian fellowship.

If construction goes as planned, our new in-ground pool should be ready for each of these weekends. Everything is on schedule, but there is still much to be done. Once the pool is completed, we are looking forward to all the good times that all will have when they come and

stay with us at the camp. We ask for your continued support of this project. If you have not sent in your contribution, we ask you to please pray and ask the Lord's guidance in doing so.

New swings have been ordered for the camp. This is a project that our manager has been wanting to see done for some time. Mike has been very instrumental in securing these swings from the very beginning. The funds for the swings came partly from Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, and from donations sent to the camp in memory of Mike's mother, who passed away several months ago. In lieu of flowers, Mike asked for donations to be sent to the camp to be used for a special project. After much thought and prayer, Mike felt that the swings would be a suitable project. We want to say thanks to all those who sent a donation.

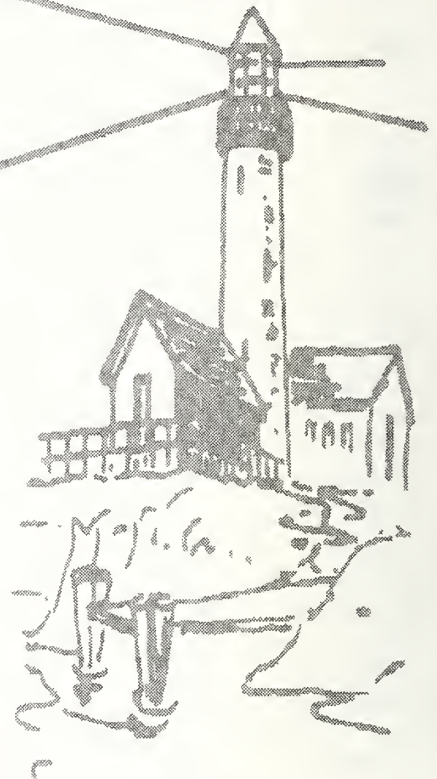
Make plans now to come to our all-day "Singing by the River" on Saturday, August 18. We have several groups planning to be with us on that day, and we will have lunch available as usual. Also, we will have hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, sweets, and tee shirts for sale that day. All you need to bring is yourself, the family, and of course some spending money. The singers would like for you to take home some of their tapes, CDs, and other items they will have for you to purchase. There will be no admission but we will receive a free-will offering. Again this year, we are planning to have sponsors who will buy space in our ad book. If you have a business that you would like to advertise, we would be pleased for you to purchase an ad from the camp. We would like to encourage churches, Sunday

school classes, layman's leagues, woman's auxiliaries, as well as individuals to purchase an ad from the camp. For more information you may contact Mrs. Susan Davis, P. O. Box 1016, Newport, NC, 28570, or phone 252-223-5772 or any board member. We are looking forward to seeing you on August 18 under the big tent at Camp Vandemere.

Don't forget to lend us your children for a week of camp. Teens, remember there is a week especially for you June 11-15, directed by the Rev. Tommy Yopp. The following week will be directed by Mr. David Parrish and it will be General Youth Camp. Keep in mind that the week of July 2-6 is still open. If your church would like to reserve that week or even a portion of that week, please contact Mike at the camp.

Please continue to pray for the camp. Your prayers are important to us. We would like to say thank you for your prayers and ask that you continue to support your camp.

If you have any questions, you may call our manager, the Rev. Mike Williams at 252-745-3171. ♦





## A Country Jubilee

by Lisa Elmore

The smell of sweet hay, soft country music playing in the background, and a savory barbeque chicken dinner was the setting for "A Country Jubilee" March 16 and 17, at Grimsley Original Free Will Baptist Church, Snow Hill, NC.



Above: The Perry Sisters perform "We're Holding The Banner."

As guests entered the church's transformed country theater, they were greeted by a miniature country Christmas tree and a smiling face. Tables were adorned with red tablecloths, red and white checkered napkins complete with silverware, and country candlelight. The

stage was covered with old tobacco sheets, lots of hay bales, and various country-western novelties.

The Grimsley youth and young adults, better known as the Grimsley Crusaders, entertained church members, family, and friends with a dinner theater. A barbeque chicken dinner, with all the trimmings, was served to the



Above: The Grimsley Mini Crusaders open the show by performing "The Lord's Army."

theater guests. After dinner, they were entertained with a variety of gospel and country "lip-synched" hits by many popular artists. "A Country Jubilee"—food, fun, fellowship—it was excellent! ❖

## Registration Form, Cragmont Woman's Conferences

**June 4-9**

Speaker: Jane C. Tripp

☐

**July 30-August 4**

Speaker: Jean Ackiss

☐

Please check above conference attending.

Mail this registration form along with a \$20.00 deposit to:

Teresa M. Ball  
6144 Weyerhaeuser Road  
Grifton, NC 28530

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

If, due to health reasons, you require downstairs accommodations, please check here ☐.

Please list the names of those with whom you would like to room:

If you do not plan to ride the bus, please check here ☐.

A balance of \$125.00 will be due upon arrival at Cragmont. A day trip will be planned. There will be afternoon trips into Black Mountain and Asheville. Prices of trips TBA. Please make your plans now to join us for one or both of these conferences.

**Remember:** The June Conference wishes to encourage participation of couples and of individual gentlemen, as well as our ladies. A limited number of private accommodations for couples are available on a first registered, first served basis.



## May—Remember Mothers and Honor Those Who Served

by Rita Otto Jones

**P**owhatan sends a Happy Mother's Day wish to all on May 13. We also remind you of Memorial Day celebrated on the last Monday in May. It began as "Decoration Day" following the War Between the States when the graves of fallen soldiers were covered with flowers by their mothers, wives and children. The Woman's Auxiliary continues the tradition by placing U.S. and Confederate flags on the graves of veterans in our cemetery.

The Cape Fear District Youth Rally was held on March 3. A praise and worship group from Mt. Olive College, Pure Heart, performed inspirational music for the program. Will Faircloth of Robert's Grove (the host church) is the drummer for the band. Around 150 enjoyed the fellowship and thanked the group for being with us.

On March 10, a soup and sandwich restaurant was set up in the fellowship hall to raise money for summer camp with the young people cooking and serving. A talent show was held in the sanctuary to highlight the entries for the spring competition at Goldsboro First Free Will Baptist. The performances served as a dress rehearsal, giving the entrants an opportunity to practice before an audience and check for any last minute problems with equipment, costumes, or staging. It was a blessing to seeing the youth working so hard to do a good job.

*Below: Cape Fear District Officers and Powhatan Girl Scouts Crystal Guy, Roberta Widhalm, and Nikki Jones on March 11.*



Girl Scout Sunday was celebrated on March 11 with members from Troops 364 (Cadette/Senior) and 474 (Brownies) recognized. Several girls and their families joined us for the morning service. Powhatan members who are part of the groups are Hayley Benson, Crystal Guy, Nikki Jones, and Roberta Widhalm. Crystal, Nikki, and Roberta all serve as officers in the Cape Fear District. Roberta is the representative to the State Board. Nikki is also a member of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.) and served as a page at the state convention held in Raleigh on March 17. Congratulations to Cherub Gregory Bass who attended the League Meeting in Ahoskie on March 17 with his mother and took first place in his age category in the Sword Drill Competition. He received a plaque and gift certificate. This was his first time participating so we are especially happy about his accomplishment.

Thank you to Harold Jones who visited with us on March 21 and brought a program on Missions. A covered dish meal was held before his presentation. Youth Leader Diana Bass is planning to go to Mexico with a missions group this summer. Continue to pray for all our missions, foreign and home.

The youth held a car wash on March 24 at Bagley's Transmission Shop in Clayton. Money collected went to the Powhatan Relay for Life team and the annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

Brother Tim Davis brought the Pre-Easter program on March 28 for the Woman's Auxiliary. Around 60 people were present and enjoyed his singing and his testimony for the Lord.

March 31 finally came with the all-day competitions being held at Goldsboro First Free Will Baptist

Church. Congratulations to 13 Gold medal winners; 35 Silver medal winners; and 13 youth members who will represent the Cape Fear District at the State level from Powhatan in 11 different categories including painting, ceramics, and woodworking, to singing, drama, public speaking, and instrumentals. Thank you for the church support (59 overall attended from Powhatan), and to the judges who had a tough job of rating the talents.

On Sunday evening, April 1, we enjoyed a visit by "The Oak Grove Boys." The singing was a great time of praise and the fellowship. The offering taken will go to the "Youth To Camp Fund." Some of our youth will go to Cragmont this summer. ♦



*Above: Youth-sponsored car wash for the Relay for Life (American Cancer Society).*

## Big Fish, Goes on The Road

**I**n the March, 2001 issue of the *Free Will Baptist*, curiosity was aroused with the article titled "Teenager Swallowed by a Big Fish." This article was telling about the youth group from First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville putting together a modern-day drama of Jonah and the whale. Curious as to how they've put this all together, Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church of New Bern invited this group to perform on May 12, at the Youth for Christ Rally. Everyone is welcome to join us at 7 PM on this evening. If you would like more information, please contact Gail or Lisa Barton, at (252) 672-5697. ♦







## Leagues' Annual Convention

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Leagues held its annual meeting at Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie, NC, on March 17, 2001. The theme of the convention, "Discipleship of Gifts" (Galatians 5:22,23) was evident throughout the day's events, from token bags containing fruity items to the presentations for the day.

We were welcomed to Hickory Chapel by Amanda Keel with an acronym spelling "F.R.U.I.T", followed by a delightful response by Lloyd Jones, Mt. Zion Church. The opening devotion based on the parts of an apple was brought by Heather White. During the Singspiration we were shown the discipleship of talents through a violin performance by Michelle Hoggard and a song by Chelsea Mizell and Haley Ambrose. The Young Disciples of Pine Level brought us a bountiful serving of discipleship in the lives of Christian youth as they presented a beautiful program of music. Of course, the cherry on the top of the day was our Sword Drill competition. It was a wonderful adventure in discipleship of our abilities when we saw 11 Leaguers compete in the Sword Drill with the following results: Primary Level (ages 6-8): first, Gregory Bass; second, Chelsea Mizell; third, Jonathan Jones. Junior Level (ages 9-11): first, Jason Williams; second, Rebecca Joyner. Intermediate Level (11-15): first, Timothy Howell; second, Hilary Williams; third, Tiffany Dunlow; fourth, Sarah Jones. Adult Level (16-up): first, Charlene Howel; second, Lisa Williams.

The day concluded with lunch by the host church. Start preparing now to participate in our 2002 Sword Drill. Make plans to join us next year on Saturday March 16, 2002, at Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fountain, NC, for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Leagues. If you have questions or need information about the League, please contact: Becky Jo Sumner, 450 NC 561 East, Ahoskie NC 27910, Phone: 252-332-6810. ❖

### Study Guide 2001-2002

### Bible Sword Drill, Convention of Original Free Will Baptist League

Theme: Jesus Christ The Lord

#### I. Scripture Searching

- |                      |                     |                    |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Genesis 3:15      | 5. Isaiah 9:6-7     | 9. Jeremiah 23:5-6 |
| 2. Deuteronomy 18:15 | 6. Isaiah 53:5      | 10. Daniel 7:13-14 |
| 3. Psalm 2:2-4       | 7. Isaiah 61:1-2    | 11. Micah 5:2      |
| 4. Psalm 69:21       | 8. Ezekiel 17:22-23 | 12. Haggai 2:7     |

#### II. Unfinished Quotations

1. "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM." (Exodus 3:14).
2. "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the Light..." (John 8:12).
3. "The people which sat in darkness saw great light;..." (Matthew 4:16).
4. "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread..." (John 6:35).
5. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, ..." (John 14:6).
6. "I am the door..." (John 10:9).
7. "I am the good shepherd;..." (John 10:14).
8. "The Lord is my shepherd;..." (Psalm 23:1).
9. "And there shall be no night there;..." (Revelation 22:5).
10. "I am the true vine..." (John 15:1).
11. "In the beginning was the Word..." (John 1:1).
12. "For I know that my redeemer liveth;..." (Job 19:25).

#### III. Character Drill

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Abraham (Genesis 17:5)          | 7. Peter (Acts 12:5)                                      |
| 2. Moses (Exodus 2:10)             | 8. Titus (Titus 1:4)                                      |
| 3. Alpha, Omega (Revelation 22:13) | 9. Martha (Luke 10:40)                                    |
| 4. John (Revelation 1:9)           | 10. Lydia (Acts 16:14)                                    |
| 5. Cain, Balaam, Core (Jude 1:11)  | 11. Dorcas (Acts 9:36)                                    |
| 6. Centurion (Luke 23:47)          | 12. Stephanas, Fortunatus, Achaicus (I Corinthians 16:17) |

#### IV. Book Drill

- |                 |                |               |               |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Numbers      | 4. Philippians | 7. Ezekiel    | 10. Zephaniah |
| 2. Ruth         | 5. Psalms      | 8. II Timothy | 11. Romans    |
| 3. I Chronicles | 6. Isaiah      | 9. Joel       | 12. II Peter  |

#### V. Topical Drill

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. The Branch (Zechariah 3:8)          | 7. Virgin (Isaiah 7:14)                       |
| 2. Riding an ass (Zechariah 9:9)       | 8. Head of the Corner (Psalm 118:22)          |
| 3. Child is born (Isaiah 9:6-7)        | 9. Messenger of covenant (Malachi 3:1)        |
| 4. Right hand (Psalm 110:1)            | 10. Root of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1-2)             |
| 5. Redemption (Hebrews 9:11-12)        | 11. Chief Cornerstone (Ephesians 2:19-20)     |
| 6. They have pierced (Zechariah 12:10) | 12. Thirty pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12) |

#### VI. Doctrinal Drill

1. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the dayspring from on high. (Luke 1:78-79)
2. The Bible teaches that Jesus is as Light shining, and morning star rising. (II Peter 1:19)
3. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the root and offspring of David, the bright and morning star rising. (Revelation 22:16)
4. The Bible teaches that Jesus is a star out of Jacob, and a sceptre out of Israel. (Numbers 24:17)
5. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness. (Malachi 4:2)
6. The Bible teaches that Jesus is called a horn of salvation. (Luke 1:69)
7. The Bible teaches a trinity, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit. (I John 5:7).
8. The Bible teaches that God loves the world. (John 3:16)
9. The Bible teaches that all have sinned. (Romans 3:23)
10. The Bible teaches that the wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23)
11. The Bible teaches that we are saved by grace through faith. (Ephesians 2:8-9)
12. The Bible teaches that to confess the Lord Jesus, and believe that God raised Him from the dead, we shall be saved. (Romans 10:9-10)

Bibles will be provided. Only references from this guide will be accepted. Any church or youth group may have Junior (ages 9-11); Intermediate (ages 12-15); and adult contestants. Primary (ages 6-8) will compete in Scripture Searching and Book Drill. This year there will be no limit on participants. However, at the Convention, the church must register with one \$25 fee. God Bless You! Becky Jo Sumner, 450 NC 561 East, Ahoskie, NC 27910, (252) 332-6810.





# Original Free Will Baptist Family Day!

Sponsored by the Youth Convention of OFWB

Saturday, June 9, 2001

## Celebrate Family Fun

at Virginia's Premier Theme Park! Come and enjoy a full day of fun, food and fellowship at Paramount's Kings Dominion with your family and friends!

## Special Discount Tickets

**\$22<sup>00</sup>** **You save \$16.99**  
ages 7 and above off the \$38.99 regular general admission.

**\$19<sup>00</sup>** ages 3-6. **You save \$7.99**  
off the \$26.99 regular general admission.

**Children ages 2 and under admitted free.**

Price include unlimited use of all rides, shows and attractions except for selected pay-per-experience attractions.

## All-You-Can-Eat Picnic

Served from 12:00 NOON to 1:00 PM. Enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato chips, fresh cut fruit, rolls, soft drinks, iced tea and brownies.

Ages 7 and above ..... \$9.50  
Ages 3 through 6 ..... \$4.75

## Get Your Tickets in Advance and Save!

Admission tickets will be on sale at the Paramount's Kings Dominion Group Sales Window on June 9, from 9:00 AM to 12 NOON. Tickets will cost \$24.00 adult and \$21.00 child. Look for the Original Free Will Baptist Window!

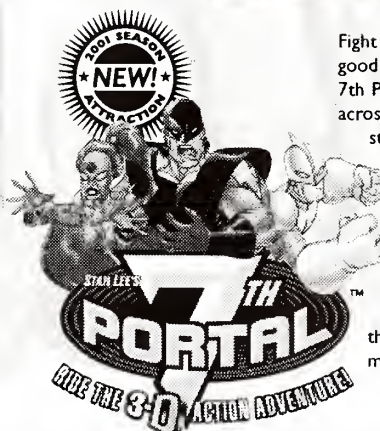
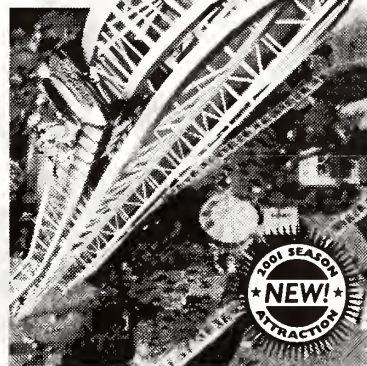
**Note: meal tickets must be purchased in advance.**



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**FOR TICKET INFORMATION CONTACT: SCOTT LANE**  
**Representative of Youth Convention Original Free Will Baptist**  
**919-736-1423 • 1255 NC 581 N • Pikeville, NC 27863**



# PEOPLE & EVENTS

## Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere

### A Woman's Concerns in a New Century

June 18-21, 2001

#### Camp Directors/Registrars

*Judith Kennedy and Stumpy Quinn*

#### Daily Sessions Leader

*Dianne B. Riley*

#### Music

*Nina Grace Register*

#### Devotions

*Amy Scott and Julia Ann Gaskins*

#### Crafts

*Josephine Ipock and Joan Faulkner*

#### Recreation Time

*Judy Thaamun and Mount Zion Women*

### Four Day Conference Fee \$65.00

#### Concerns

*Financial*

*Jeff Daughtry*

*Family*

*Bobby Taylor*

*Spiritual*

*FWB Headquarters*

*Health*

*Harold Swinson*

#### Evening Worship Leaders

*Monday*

*Eastern Youth Officers*

*Tuesday*

*Rock of Zion*

*Wednesday*

*Macedonia*

*Thursday*

*Bethlehem and Little Rock*

### DAILY SCHEDULES

#### Monday (Eastern District Officers Day)

11:30 AM Opening Session  
Overview of week  
Devotions and Invocation  
for Lunch  
12:00 NOON Lunch  
1:00 PM Craft and Rest Time  
2:30 PM Break and Play Time  
4:00 PM Financial Concerns  
5:00 PM Dinner  
7:00 PM Worship  
10:00 PM Evening Devotions

#### Tuesday (Woman of the Year Day)

7:50 AM Devotion by the Flag Pole  
8:00 AM Breakfast  
9:30 AM Biblical Lessons  
Musical Moments  
Refreshment Break  
Stories with a Purpose  
12:00 NOON Lunch  
1:00 PM Craft and Rest Time

2:30 PM Break and Play Time  
4:00 PM Family Concerns  
5:00 PM Dinner  
7:00 PM Worship  
10:00 PM Evening Devotions

#### Wednesday

##### (Denominational Ministries Day)

7:50 AM Devotion by the Flag Pole  
8:00 AM Breakfast  
9:30 AM Biblical Lessons  
Musical Moments  
Refreshment Break  
Stories with a Purpose  
Lunch  
12:00 NOON Leave for Free Will  
12:45 PM Baptist Headquarters in  
Ayden  
2:15 PM Arrive Headquarters  
Spiritual Concerns  
4:30 PM Depart Headquarters  
5:00 PM Arrive Dixie Queen for  
Dinner

6:30 PM Depart Dixie Queen  
7:15 PM Arrive Macedonia for  
Worship  
9:00 PM Depart Church  
10:00 PM Evening Devotion

#### Thursday (Camper Day)

7:50 AM Devotion by the Flag Pole  
8:00 AM Breakfast  
9:30 AM Biblical Lessons  
Musical Moments  
Refreshment Break  
Stories with a Purpose  
Lunch  
12:00 NOON Craft and Rest Time  
1:00 PM Break and Play Time  
2:30 PM Health Concerns  
4:00 PM Woman's Conference Ban-  
quet Awards Presentations  
5:00 PM Attitude for the Future  
7:00 PM Depart Camp...until next  
year!

For contact during the Woman's Conference week, please use the following number (252) 745-7938

**Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere**  
**June 18-21, 2000**

Please fill this form out completely and mail it along with a \$15 non-refundable deposit (the remainder will be due upon arrival at Camp Vandemere) to one of the addresses below.

Mrs. Judith Kennedy  
933-N NC 41  
Pink Hill, NC 28572

Mrs. Audrey Quinn  
461 Wintergreen Road  
Cove City, NC 28523

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

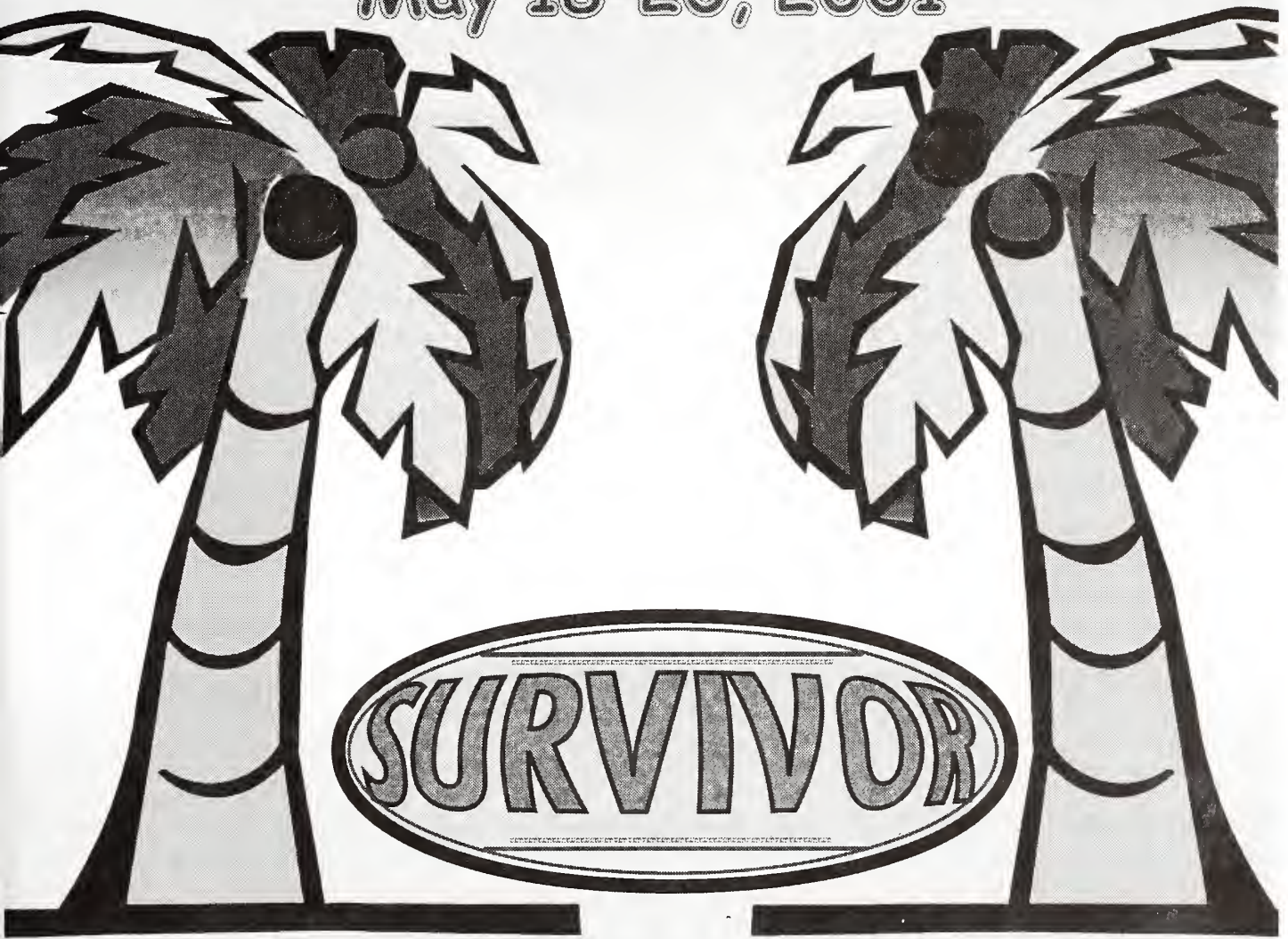
Note: We will make every effort to accommodate medical or physically challenged guests.



# Youth Convention

## Original Free Will Baptists

May 18-20, 2001



Mount Olive College





## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington

What is the typographic mind? Was there a time in America's history when the typographic mind dominated culture? According to Neil Postman, the typographic mind is a mind "formed by the printed word" (58). Such a mind has specific traits: (1) "a sophisticated ability to think conceptually, deductively, and sequentially"; (2) "a high valuation of reason and order"; (3) "an abhorrence of contradiction"; (4) "a large capacity for detachment and objectivity"; (5) "a tolerance for delayed response" (63).

The typographic mind constituted the thinking procedure for America until thinking shifted from a "word-centered culture" to "an image-centered culture" (61).

### Typographic or Word-centered Early America

Nothing competed with the printed word in early America. People learned to think through the printed word. Language took the shape of the printed word and developed a word-centered culture. As such, language had a content, guided thought, and carried meaning. Reading was a serious affair. Postman notes what reading did to the habits of the mind of early Americans: "the process encourages rationality; that the sequential, proportional character of the written word fosters what Walter Ong calls the 'analytic management of knowledge'" (51).

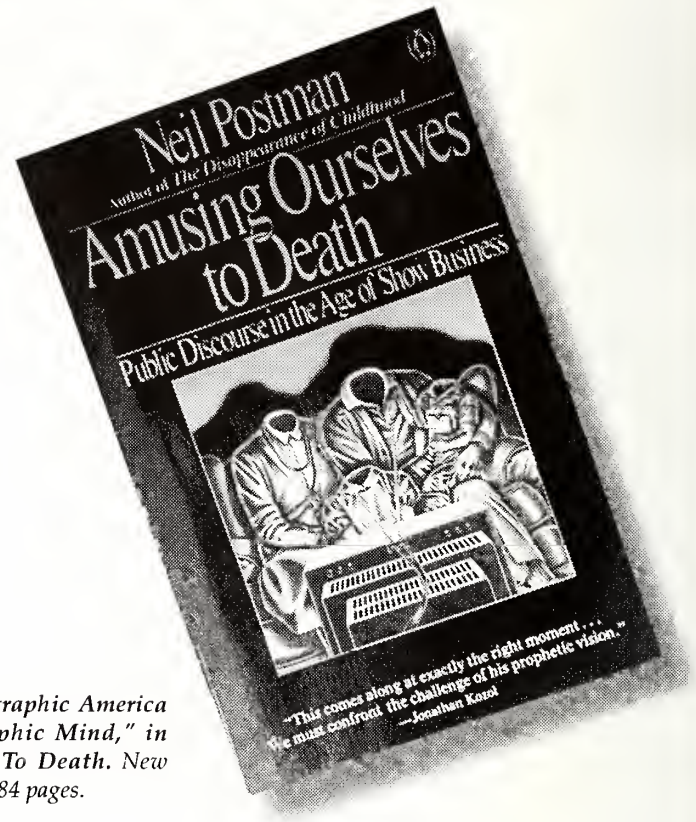
As a word-centered culture, early Americans appreciated the intelligence of Jonathan Edwards's sermons (54). Early American denominations founded colleges in order to provide "learned ministers" to their denominations: (1) the Congregational Church founded Harvard in 1636; (2) the more fundamental members of the Congregational

Church broke from Harvard and founded Yale in 1701; (3) the Presbyterians founded Washington and Jefferson in 1802; (4) the Baptists founded Wake Forest in 1834; (5) the Congregationalists founded Middlebury in 1800.

Church broke from Harvard and founded Yale in 1701; (3) the Presbyterians founded Washington and Jefferson in 1802; (4) the Baptists founded Wake Forest in 1834; (5) the Congregationalists founded Middlebury in 1800.

### Cultural Patterns From a Print-based Culture

The attention span of early Americans was "extraordinary" (45), according to Postman. Crowds could listen to a public speaker for long hours at a time. In speeches, language was complex as in print media. Social events became occasions for rhetorical debates. Camp grounds flourished where great oratory occurred: Chautauqua in New York; Ocean Grove in New Jersey; Bayview in Michigan; Junaluska in North Carolina (47).



The cultural mind-set of the printed word made language reflect reason, reflect an objective ordered content, and reflect a predicted outcome. From the power of print came the following cultural challenges to the world: (1) praise of capitalism as a rational system of economics, (b) attack of religious superstitions, (c) attack of the divine right of kings, (d) the necessity of universal literacy, and (e) the belief in progress (52).

### Conclusion

When a culture is dominated by a print-centered language, reason, content, clarity, and complexity rule. The danger of modern society, according to Postman, is its use of image-centered language wherein entertainment rather than reason dominates. ❖



# May 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 ✝
13 ✝ <i>MOM</i>	14	15 ✝	16	17	18 ✝	19 ✝ 
20 ✝	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 	28 ✝	29	30	31		

**12—Mount Olive College Forty Eighth Commencement** Worship service, 10:30 AM, Commencement Exercises 2:00 PM.

**13—Mother' Day**

**15—Free Will Baptist Press Board Meeting,** 1:00 PM

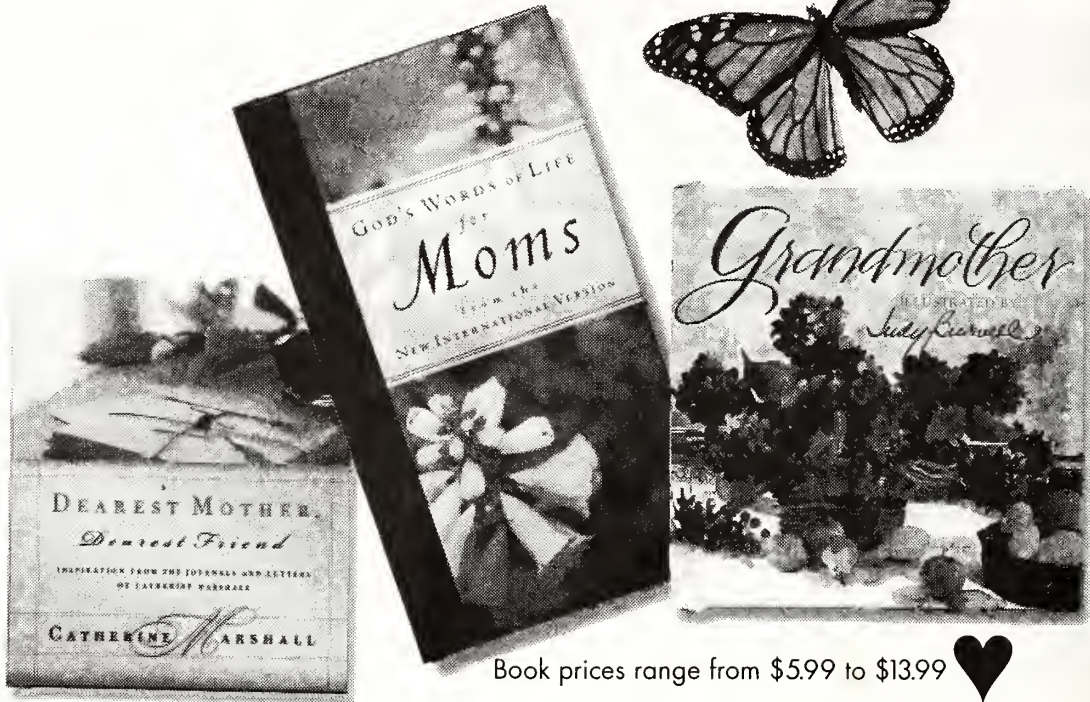
**18-20—Youth Convention** at MOC.

**19—Armed Forces Day**

**28—Memorial Day** Rodgers Chapel 8:00 AM.



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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

JUNE 2001

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## Graduations: Pinnacles of Life

**I** remember them well--my high school graduation and my college graduation. In retrospect, it seems that high school graduation was the highest pinnacle, for it brought twelve years of togetherness to an end and ushered in a totally new phase of life.

My high school graduation class was very small compared to most graduating classes of today. A total of 17 of us "flipped our tassles" in 1949 at Nahunta High School, Wayne County, NC. They were the days of baccalaureate services in addition to graduation ceremonies. Preachers traditionally delivered the baccalaureate messages and a county or state school official spoke at the graduation. No one objected to the prayers and hymns that were sung, because it was the right thing to do.

In those small county schools, we knew all the teachers, as well as most of the high school students. Our twelve years of public education began and ended in the same building, which is quite a contrast in the school systems of today when parents have children in two or three schools within the county. I remember each classroom and many incidents that took place in those rooms and many fond memories. Our teachers fulfilled their roles in helping to shape our lives, just as good teachers do today.

Regrettably, I cruised through high school. I had no intentions of furthering my education after high school. The Lord, however, had other plans for me, which came into play in January of 1950, when He laid the call to the ministry upon my heart. Then came college. Then my laxity in high school revealed itself. Simply put, I didn't really know how to study and I never dreamed of the many hours required to achieve. Yet, there were many valuable principles and ideals instilled in me by my teachers and parents that came to the forefront, and with the Lord's help came college graduation.

The only high school "high tech" course I had was typing. I soon learned the home keys and how to type, "The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy old dogs," on those old manual Remingtons (or whatever they were). Mr. Talton Jones was my teacher in typing as well as several other classes. It was my privilege years later to teach under his principleship. He still lives in Snow Hill--one of those teachers you are thankful to have known.

In our graduation ceremony we sang of "far away places with strange sounding names." But as with all

## Editor's

*thoughts...*

*C. H. Overman*



graduates, we went our separate ways, entering into different walks of life, some to college and some directly to a vocation. Those twelve years together came to an end with the discussions about a class reunion within a few years. Those few years became 48 years, and when we did meet two class members had passed away and since then another. We'll meet again this year and we will reminisce and share our experiences, cherishing our high school graduation--a pinnacle of our lives. I will forever cherish the friendship of classmates and teachers who became such a vital part of my life in those formative years.

To the graduates of today, we offer our congratulations. In many ways, your world is far different than that of our generation. Yet, some things remain basically the same. As you begin your new venture, remember there are many avenues of service open to you. You will find your place. You will make your contribution to the betterment of mankind, but you will need God's presence in your life to do so. Our prayers and best wishes are with you as you move beyond your graduation into the mainstream of life. ♦

### A Bag of Tools

Isn't it strange  
That princes and kings  
And clowns that caper  
In sawdust rings,  
And common people  
Like you and me  
Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools  
A shapeless mass,  
A book of rules  
And each must make--  
Ere life is flown--  
A stumbling block  
Or a stepping stone.

*by R. L. Sharpe*



## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*, PO Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$10.07; two years, \$18.55; four years, \$36.04 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$9.50, \$17.50, and \$34, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount is given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours:** Ayden, 9 AM-5 PM, Monday-Saturday; Wilson, 10 AM-6 PM, Monday-Saturday; New Bern and Kinston, 9:30 AM-5 PM, Monday-Saturday.

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June • Volume 118 • Number 6

Celebrating 128 Years  
1873-2001



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## NEXT MONTH



June is Cragmont Assembly Month



# What Is Wrong With A State-Operated Lottery?



**selling hope  
in the luck  
business...**

**G**ambling has invaded practically every area of life and poses a serious threat to our nation and its homes. The wealth-without-work dream of many citizens is shredding the moral fabric of American society. The menace looms larger every day. The threat of increased legalization lurks in the halls of legislative bodies. North Carolina is no exception.

Currently, two bills for a state-operated lottery (HB 1 and HB 511) are being considered by the NC House. Although this is not the first time bills for a lottery have been introduced in the State Legislature, the present situation is more difficult to resist than previously. North Carolina now has a pro-lottery Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Our state is also surrounded by states that either have a lottery or are seriously considering enacting one. Moreover, North Carolina's state budget deficit of nearly 800 million dollars has some legislators, along with the Governor, pushing for a lottery as a way to close the gap. The situation has never been more favorable for lottery proponents. Nevertheless, we must vigorously withstand efforts to bring a lottery to our state. Why? Here are just a few important reasons:



### **Lotteries are gambling and gambling is sin.**

Gambling is clearly opposed to the moral world view of the Scriptures. There is no substantive difference between buying a lottery ticket and hoping it has the winning numbers and betting on numbers at a roulette table. The basic impulse behind gambling is covetousness—it is greed. The Apostle Paul warned, "...the love of money is the root of all evil..." (1 Timothy 6:10). God's Word treats this sin as one of the most hideous of all of Satan's tools. In fact, it goes so far as to say that a person who practices a lifestyle of covetousness cannot inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:10).

### **Lotteries exploit the poor in society.**

Lotteries are more regressive than most forms of gambling since individuals in lower income brackets spend proportionally more money on them than persons with higher incomes. In Georgia in zip codes with average household incomes below \$20,000, the lottery sold \$249 in lottery tickets per resident while in zip codes with incomes over \$40,000 per capita spending was only \$97. No doubt this is one of the reasons why their advertising targets specific socioeconomic groups. For instance, the Illinois lottery rented billboards in some of Chicago's most economically depressed neighborhoods with the slogan: "This could be your ticket out."

### **Lotteries are dependent upon compulsive gamblers.**

Duke University professors Clotfelter and Cook, in their book *Selling Hope*, conclude that 10% of those who bet on the lottery are compulsive gamblers and account for 50% of the money wagered. Of compulsive gamblers surveyed, 22% divorced because of gambling, 40% lost or quit a job due to gambling, 49% stole from work to pay gambling debts, 63% had contemplated suicide, and 79% said they wanted to die.

### **Lotteries do little to pay for public education.**

Lottery states spend less of their budget on education than states without lotteries, about 50% for lottery states and 60% for non-lottery states. Often states

earmarked less of their general funds for education as lottery funds were contributed. The result was that there was no actual increase in spending. What is more, lotteries make it more difficult for public education systems to raise additional money. Ohio State Representative Marc Guthrie stated that by focusing on the contribution of lotteries to education the state "creates the perception in the eyes of the public that it provides more for education than it does.... It causes citizens to respond negatively to local efforts to raise revenue."

### **Lotteries compete with legitimate retail business.**

The lottery diverts dollars for goods and services, money normally spent on groceries, clothes, or a new car or refrigerator, to lottery tickets. Dr. Robert Goodman, author *The Luck Business*, one of the most widely read books on gambling, comments, "If you increase the amount of money people are spending on gambling, you are decreasing their expenditures on other activities and putting their jobs at risk".

People who would never gamble at a casino are drawn into regular and frequent gambling habits by the lottery because lottery gambling is so convenient. The real purpose of a lottery is to stimulate lottery sales; that is, the more money people spend on lottery tickets, the more money the state takes in. One of the purposes of government then becomes the creation of more gamblers. This radically changes the purpose of government, which is to protect the general welfare of its citizens, to the role of a common bookie.

### **Lotteries produce various forms of crime.**

As one commentator has said "a lottery is to gambling as marijuana is to drug use." The experience of other states demonstrates that once a lottery is adopted, other forms of gambling will soon follow—bringing increased social ills such as prostitution, domestic violence, child abuse, drugs, and increased illegal gambling. In one study, 86% of compulsive gamblers had committed a felony to gamble. Lotteries also create

corruption in the government. In California, a state senator pleaded guilty to federal racketeering charges for taking a bribe in return for a vote related to a lottery contract. In West Virginia, a lottery director was convicted of fraud for his role in trying to ensure that a particular lottery company won the lottery contract.

Sin always puts us on the losing side of the proposition. Gambling pollutes everything it touches. North Carolina shouldn't bet on the lottery. Contact your legislator and tell him/her that you don't want to see a lottery come to North Carolina. Act today!!!—*The Beacon*, Christian Action League of North Carolina. ❖

## **The Lottery Packet for Pastors and Other Church Leaders**

**T**he Lottery Packet for Pastors and Other Church Leaders provides vital information about the lottery and how to resist it. Steps are given concerning what pastors, church leaders, and the church can do to prevent a lottery from coming to our state. The packet includes the following:

- A Full-Length Sample Sermon on gambling and the lottery that the pastor is free to use as his very own.
- A list of steps that pastors, church leaders, and churches can take to resist the lottery.
- Talking points for speaking with state legislators.
- A copy of the address, e-mail address, and telephone number of every State Representative and Senator in North Carolina.
- Three Brochures on the Lottery by CAL  
*The Lottery and Education*  
*The Founders on Gambling*  
*The Bible and Gambling*
- A commentary by our Executive Director, Rev. Mark Creech that delineates the importance of pastors and church leaders speaking out

*Continued on page 8*



# Teach Your Kids to Be More Responsible

by Bill Denney

*"Dad, Dad, you've gotta come," pleaded my ten-year-old son.*

*"Don't bother me. Can't you see I'm trying to say good-bye to Mom?"*

**M**y four sons, along with my brother-in-law and his three children, had met at the airport to see our wives off to a Christian music conference. The two women were about to board the plane when my son arrived breathlessly on the scene.

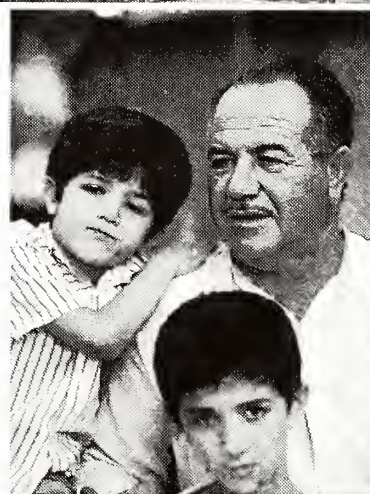
"But Dad, it's important! You have to come and see what David and I did," he insisted.

The airport was undergoing a major renovation, so as Bruce and I walked down the makeshift plywood corridor with its small windows, he tearfully explained. "David and I were taking turns jumping up to see who could touch the highest spot on the window. I hit it too hard and it broke."

After checking to see that he was not injured, I lost my cool. "For pete sake," I yelled, "we're here to see Mom off on her trip, and you guys are running through the airport breaking windows. Now get back with the rest of us where you belong, and when we get home I'm going to give you a spanking."

The car was unusually quiet as we drove home, and as my anger began to cool, I had time to think. Why had I gotten so angry? Why had I told Bruce that I was going to spank him? What would spanking teach him in this situation? How could I redo the whole situation in such a way that my son would learn something? What could I do with all my anger at him?

*"Dad, Dad, You've gotta come."*



*Dad • Father • Grandfather • Gramps • PaPa  
Grandad • Uncle • Pops • Daddy • Brother*



At the house, Bruce went up to his room and shut the door. I went to my room to think and pray a bit more. I emerged shortly and headed up to Bruce's room.

"Bruce," I said, sitting down on the edge of his bed, "I'm sorry I got so angry at you. I was out of line and I'm sorry. Will you forgive me?"

"Sure Dad," he quickly replied. "Are you still going to spank me?"

"No, I was wrong there, too. You see, it was an accident. Breaking the window was wrong but it was not intentionally disobedient. You know," I continued, "if I had broken the window, no one would have yelled at me, and no one would spank me. I would just have to pay for the damage I had done. That is how it is in the world. When you break or destroy someone else's property, you have to be responsible and pay for it. I have decided that that is what you can do. When we go back in a few days to get Mom, we will stop at the security guard's station, and you can tell him what you did and offer to pay for the window."

I was amazed to watch his expression as I talked. It all made sense to him. Of course, he was delighted to learn that the spanking would not be forthcoming, but it was more satisfying to him to have me take a rational approach in his discipline. He was more than happy to go along with my plan.

I even teased him a little by telling him that after we discovered how much the window cost, he could break all of them that he wanted to pay for. "That's OK, Dad," he quickly responded, "one will be enough for this time."

Teaching children responsibility at an early age is not the easiest job in the world, but it certainly is easier than trying to teach them when they are older. Not only is the teaching job more difficult, but the consequences the individual suffers for lack of responsibility get increasingly more severe as he or she gets older. The consequences that a three-year-old experiences when he does not pick up a toy when asked is certainly much less than the consequences suffered by a sixteen-year-old girl who finds herself pregnant due to wrong and irresponsible sexual behavior.

Children can learn to be accountable and trustworthy. If we produce little robots who are merely conforming to parents' demands, we are not teaching our children to assume personal responsibility for their actions and choices. Children can learn to obey because they want to, and because they have discovered that it pays to obey and costs to disobey.

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*Children can learn  
to be accountable  
and trustworthy.*

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Here are some ideas you might find useful.

**1. Set guidelines and limits.**

Let your children know exactly where the boundaries are, when curfew is, what is meant by "pick up your room" and what is acceptable behavior with the cat.

Often as parents we don't give very clear guidelines, and then we get upset when the children don't read our minds and fall into line. That produces great frustration for both the parent and the child. Involve the children in the process of determining the rules that they are to live by. They will be more apt to go along with them because they own them.

**2. Establish a consequence for violating the rule.**

One of the biggest mistakes parents make is that they often give rules, but they don't, at the same time, give the consequence for any infraction of the rules. That leaves the child with a great dilemma. The child doesn't know exactly what will happen if he or she breaks the rules, therefore the child can't make a clear choice to "obey" or "pay."

This is the way God deals with us as His children. He does not force us to obey Him, but He does tell us that if we do, we will experience His blessings; and if we don't, we will suffer the consequences.

Make the consequence fit the behavior as much as possible. When Bruce broke the window, the consequence was to pay for the window. If your son's ir-

responsible behavior involves the car, some loss of car privileges for a specified time would be appropriate. Yelling at the kid and telling him what a jerk he is will only provoke him to anger, and the cycle of disobedience builds.

**3. Model responsible behavior.**

When you are stopped by the police for speeding, don't try to con the officer by giving him all the excuses for your irresponsible behavior. Let your children see that you pay for your wrong choices, just as they do.

**4. Give choices to the children.**

Let your children know that they have a choice to either obey and experience the joy in that behavior, or disobey and suffer the consequences. Both choices are open to them.

As parents, you probably will have a difficult time forcing your children to stay inside the boundaries. That will run you ragged. Rather, spend your energy setting up the family rules, establishing the consequences, and then carrying out the consequences. You can do that. If you do, you will have a much greater sense of being in control of the children. Your own anger and frustration, and theirs, will also be less.

**5. Do not protect the child from the consequences.**

Let the kid experience the full effect of the preestablished consequences. If you shield him or her from the consequences, you might as well not have any. Then both you and the child lose.

**6. Give the child freedom to blow it.**

Can you give your child the freedom to fail? Ouch! That hurts, doesn't it? Let him or her fail and pay the price. Start early on simple things. Then, with the Lord's help, you will experience the joy of having an older child who learned in the early years the lessons of assuming personal responsibility for behavior—lessons that can last a lifetime. ❖

*Bill Denney is a marriage and family counselor in Reno, Nevada. He and his wife, Theda, have four sons. David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 N. Grove Ave., Elgin IL 0120. For additional information, contact Marlene LeFever at 800/533-2201 ext. 409.*



- A commentary by our Executive Director, Rev. Mark Creech that delineates the importance of pastors and church leaders speaking out on critical political issues.
- A copy of each lottery bill (HB 1 and HB 511) introduced in the General Assembly.
- A copy of a Resolution that can be adopted by the church and sent to your state legislators.
- A copy of a petition that can be used to collect signatures of people in your church and community who are opposed to the lottery. The petition should be sent to your State Representatives and Senators.
- An article by Roy Cordato of the John Locke Foundation that shows the real economic impact of a state-operated lottery in North Carolina.

Packets are free. But donations to cover the cost of printing and mailing would be greatly appreciated. Order yours today!

You can visit the CAL website at [CALACT.FAITHWEB.COM](http://CALACT.FAITHWEB.COM) for CAL'S history, faith statement, information on moral issues, resolutions, petitions, *The Beacon* and the Executive Director's radio addresses. ❖

## John Maxwell's TEAM Simulcast to be Presented

Under the sponsorship of the Barrow Endowment, TEAM Simulcast's phase of INJOY, the ministry of John Maxwell, will present, via satellite, a simulcast on September 15, 2001, at Mount Olive College, one of the 700 locations to receive the simulcast. He will be sharing his *21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*.

More information will be forthcoming concerning this important event. ❖

## Status of

### **The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists**

In recent weeks several questions have been raised concerning the availability of *The Articles of Faith...* booklet. The following information will explain the situation.

During an Executive Committee of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, held on August 11, 1997, the following motion was passed:

"By motion, we request that the Free Will Baptist Press not reprint the Articles of Faith and Discipline until corrections and changes have been made and a new contract with the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has been negotiated." These Executive Committee minutes were adopted by the Convention in September, 1997.

When this material and information is received, the *Articles of Faith...* will be made available.—*The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.* ❖

## Churches & Ministers Available

NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)

**Croatian Original Free Will Baptist Church**, New Bern, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested is asked to contact Buster Hansen, (252) 447-4737.

**Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church**, Ayden, NC, is seeking a full-time Associate Pastor concentrating on Christian education and visitation. An ordained minister with a minimum of at least five years previous ministry experience and a four-year college degree is preferred. Please send resume and salary expectation to Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, 5043 Weyerhaeuser Road, Ayden, NC 28513.

**Reedy Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church**, Winterville, NC, is seeking a part-time youth minister. Any interested person is asked to contact the Rev. Philip Wood, (252) 756-3416, or Libby Williams, (252) 355-6255. ❖

## Drop By MACEA Conference

While attending the MACEA Conference on August 18, 2001, New Bern, NC, be sure to "drop by" the Free Will Baptist Book Store display where you will find Sunday school literature, teacher aides, classroom supplies and Bibles, etc. ❖



## Hines Joins Cragmont Staff



Board, Eastern Conference Examining Board, Cragmont Board, North Carolina Ministerial Association, General Youth Conference and Cragmont Youth Conference.

Bryant is the manager of the gospel music group Covenant.

To say that Bryant Hines loves Cragmont is an understatement. One needs only to look at his life to see the impact Cragmont has made on him. He proudly boasts that he made a profession of faith at Cragmont in June of 1963 and that his heart has been here ever since. He met his wife, Karen, at Cragmont in 1988. Many of his closest friendships were formed through work on youth conferences at Cragmont. Just last summer two of Bryant's children made professions of faith while attending a youth conference at Cragmont.

All of us at Cragmont are excited and feel very fortunate to have Bryant Hines on our staff. ♦

**T**he management of Cragmont Assembly is happy to announce that the Rev. Bryant Hines is joining our staff in the new Marketing Program Director position. This new position will combine two areas of work into one job. Marketing Cragmont and its facilities and current programs to our churches is the first area. Designing programs for new conferences, seminars, and retreats is the other major thrust of this position.

The Rev. Bryant Hines is the son of Connie and Lorraine Hines of Greenville, NC. He is married to the former Karen Reason. He is the father of three sons, Joshua, Seth, and Caleb.

Bryant's home church is First Free Will Baptist, Greenville. He graduated from D. H. Conley High School and was honorably discharged from the US Air Force in 1970. He attended East Carolina University, graduated from Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. He has served the following

churches; Trinity, Pantego, NC ( 1978-1979); Casey's Chapel, Goldsboro (1979-1984); Pleasant Hill, Grimesland (1984-1988); and Core Creek, Cove City (1988-2001).

Bryant has served the Free Will Baptist Denomination on the Sunday School

## The Hill Top Classic

**I**f you like to play golf, we hope you will be interested in this trip. Two golf courses have been selected in the mountains within an hour's drive of Cragmont. Tentatively they are Blue Ridge Country Club at Linville and Grassy Creek Country Club at Spruce Pine.

You will drive to Cragmont on September 23. On Monday the 24, after

downing a famous Cragmont breakfast, we will strike out to play golf. After the day's round, you will come back to Cragmont for the evening meal. On the 25th, after breakfast, we will strike out for a different golf course and another 18 holes, returning to Cragmont for the evening meal. Entertainment is planned for Monday and Tuesday evenings.



Wednesday the 26 you make the trip home.

The total cost of the trip is \$160 per person. We have room for 80 golfers. The cost includes: breakfast Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, evening meal Monday and Tuesday, two rounds of golf, three nights lodging, and transportation to the golf course. On the two days we play golf, you will be responsible for lunch on the course.

To register for this event please fill out the form to your left and send it to Cragmont along with a \$50 deposit to secure your spot. Balance is due upon arrival. Master Card and Visa cards are accepted. ♦

✂

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711.





Above: Woman's Auxiliary—Morning Star Conference, April 20-21, 2001.

## The Cragmont Club

**T**he Cragmont Club was established in 1980 to help give Cragmont a cash flow throughout the year. Though some members give their donation in one lump sum, many members choose to make regular monthly or quarterly donations to Cragmont. Each year the Club brings in approximately \$30,000.00. While the Club offers certain benefits to members, the greatest benefit is the opportunity to support this ministry of the denomination and make a difference in the lives of many.

### The Plan

For \$10 per month you and your immediate family may spend a weekend or the equivalent of a weekend at Cragmont at no cost. To join the Club send in your first \$10 earmarked "Club."

### The Club Rules:

- You may use benefits while staying at Cragmont during a church retreat.
- You may use benefits if you are traveling in the area while on vacation.
- Benefits may not be used during regularly scheduled conferences.

- Benefits cover one room for two nights.
- Use of benefits is based upon availability of space.
- You must have been a member for one month before any benefits may be used.
- Meals will not be prepared unless there are 15 or more people staying at Cragmont and we are already preparing meals.
- Benefits may not be carried over into another year.

If you are interested in becoming a Cragmont Club member, send in your name, address, and phone number along with a check for \$10 (your first payment) made out to Cragmont and earmarked "Club." We also take MasterCard and Visa should you want to call in your information to our office at 828-669-7677.

### Volunteer Staff Needed

From time to time people will inquire about coming up to work a week, two weeks or the whole summer. So the idea surfaced in my mind—why not set aside

some space in the motel and invite people who are interested to come and work? We are looking for those who would volunteer one week, two weeks, or more for the time period of June 10—July 29. As a volunteer you will get to see and participate in a week of camp and see first hand the importance of the ministry of Cragmont.

### What Is Needed

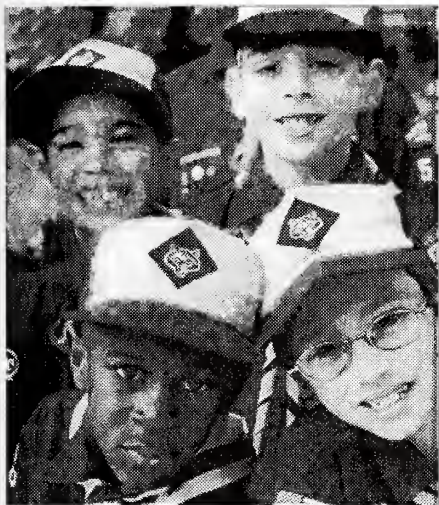
What is needed are people who are willing to mop floors, cook, serve food, clean rooms, cut grass, and the list goes on. The work is basic and can be physically demanding. During summer conferences, campers arrive on Monday afternoon and stay until Saturday morning, making Saturday the big clean-up day. It is important that all staff be available to work on Saturday. There are great rewards of accomplishment in knowing that you have served the Lord through serving others. If you are interested in volunteering time to Cragmont, please contact John Williams at 828-669-7677. You can also reach us through e-mail at CragCom@aol.com. ❖



## In Support of Values

by Roy T. Williams,  
Chief Scout Executive

In a recent issue of *BSA Today In Support of Values*, Research Edition, Roy Williams, Chief Scout Executive reports those who oppose the U.S. Supreme Court's decision and our leadership standards have worked to hinder the positive impact of Scouting and our chartered organizations. It is our belief that they neither understand the uniqueness of Scouting nor appreciate that chartered organizations choose Scouting because it supports their values. In some cases, those critical of the Boy Scouts of America have created the impression



that American parents are not supportive of our policy.

A new Boy Scouts of America research study was conducted among parents of boys to accurately understand their beliefs and opinions on this issue. Two key findings from the survey that we want to share with you are:

1. More than seven of ten American parents (72 percent) agree with the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling that the Boy Scouts of America has the right to set its own volunteer leadership standards.

2. Two out of three American parents (65.4%) agree with the Boy Scouts of America's belief that homosexuals are not appropriate role models for Scouts. Among parents of Scouts, 70.3 percent agree that homosexuals are not appro-

priate role models for Scouts. Among fathers of Scouts, 73.5 percent agree.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

The Boy Scouts of America is the nation's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership training.

In the future Scouting will continue to offer young people responsible fun and adventure; instill in young people lifetime values and develop in them ethical character as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law; train young people in citizenship, service, and leadership; and serve America's communities and families with its quality, values-based program.

On June 28, 2000, the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the right of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to set its own standards for membership and leadership. The court decision allows the BSA to continue its mission of providing character-building experiences for young people, which has been the chartered purpose since its founding in 1910.

Research findings validate that America's parents reaffirm their support for the leadership standards and values of the Boy Scouts of America.

By standing firm on traditional values, the Boy Scouts of America has become a target of gay activists. They have targeted national corporations, foundations, and United Ways, which have traditionally supported our program to serve underprivileged youth.

Amid much of the rhetoric, independent research provides a perspective of Americans' attitudes toward the BSA and its values.

A January 2001 survey by Rasmussen Research revealed that 75 percent of American adults continue to have a "fa-

vorable" opinion of the Boy Scouts. In addition, findings from sources such as the Gallup/CNN/*USA Today* Poll, Zogby International, and Princeton Survey Research Associates/*Newsweek*, within the last year all reveal that Americans support the Boy Scouts' volunteer leadership policy.

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*"It (the Boy Scouts of America's stance) has reinforced my support for the Boy Scouts. I think society is where it is today because of declining values. We keep letting things slide, and get more lax. Then we wake up and say, 'Why are our children the way they are?' It's because we keep letting things go."*

—Mother of a Scout in Baltimore, Maryland

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**\*\*70 percent of adult Americans say their opinion of the Boy Scouts of America has either not changed or has improved since learning that the group does not allow homosexual members.**

*\*Rasmussen Research*

**\*68 percent of likely voters agree that the Boy Scouts should have the right to set their own rules and dismiss Scout leaders for being homosexual or other rules violations.**

*\*Zogby International American Values Poll*

**\*64 percent of adult Americans think the Boy Scouts of America should not be required to allow openly gay adults to serve Boy Scout leaders.**

*\*Gallup Organization*

**\*56 percent of adults agree with the Supreme Court decision that "the Boy Scouts of America have a constitutional right to block gay men from becoming troop leaders."**

*\*Princeton Survey Research Associates❖*



## Celebration in Bulgaria

by Tezdjan N. Murtazova

In the last week of November the children, the youth, and the older ones began to grow excited about the dramas, which they planned to play during our Christmas celebration. Shepherds, wise men, angels, Josef and Mary were daily active to prepare themselves to become excellent in their performance. The youth practiced the songs for the program.

Willem's suggestions for the costumes, crowns, and spoken words were highly appreciated and contributed to the overall presentation. Everybody was excited and filled with enthusiasm. We decided to celebrate in two different groups, the young children and all the older ones. There was no room large enough to be all together with 73 persons.

The young children, six to eight years, met on December 23. It was a cold winter day. A frosty wind was blowing hard and from December 18 we had no electricity to plug in our heaters. All rooms were cold. However, we were able to receive them in my personal room which gives even more space than the classroom. In my room I have a kamin, a fireplace for wood. What a joy, because this was the day that many young children celebrated their first Christmas day.

The many children who came new in my classes at September heard the Birth story of Jesus for the first time in their lives. I used my flannel board and the beautiful pictures. When I asked them, "Do you know what we celebrate today?" most of them answered, "Yes, Kaka, it is Christmas." Then followed my next question: "Do you know what we celebrate on Christmas Day?" They looked puzzled and did not know what to answer. Soon that uncomfortable situation changed and when they heard that it was Jesus' Birthday they became enthusiastic, because they know Jesus.

After the storytelling, they sang Christmas songs, which they learned in



Left: Gypsy children receiving Christmas presents.

English and Bulgarian. Then it was time for actions which gave me relief of my worries that they would become too cold. In their Gypsy way, they started moving, jumping, clapping hands and making all kinds of happy movements.

All of them received a small bag with Christmas presents. They all got an orange, a surprise egg, a waffle, and a red plastic bag with candies which we received from Mrs. Betty Bynum in Snow Hill. We gave them all a good toothbrush. After all that excitement, they were ready to go home to show their treasures and according to their mothers, they told there the story of the Birth of Jesus. What a wonderful time is Christmas! We too had a blessed time to celebrate Christmas with the smallest members of the Kingdom of God.

On December 24, the next day, we celebrated Christmas with the youth and the young adults. The performance of the drama in the overcrowded room was touching. Gypsies are excellent actors and some brought even more into their role than the script contained. They understand one another im-



Below: Children portraying the story of Jesus' Birth.





# Newsletter From India and Nepal

by Dr. E. M. Lall



*Above: Collection of oranges, candies and other goodies for the children at Christmas.*

mediately and put all their feelings into the play to make it richer and fuller of content. Like in music, Gypsies are excellent in improvisation. Our children love to sing and to dance their traditional dances to express their joy and happiness. They, too, received their Christmas presents like the children and they were as happy with them.

After all this, everybody was ready for a quiet time of prayer and devotion. Willem meditated on Christmas. The message of Willem was that Jesus Christ is the biggest gift from God and not the material gift, because the spiritual gifts will last even in times of the greatest sorrows and troubles. That helped them to

consider with thankfulness how the Lord is at their side as the special and unique gift from God.

We prayed for God's blessings over the lives of all of us and we asked for His guidance in the New Year of 2001. We prayed also for all our brothers and sisters in the world. We hope sincerely that you too had a blessed and thankful Christmastime and that the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthens your faith and faithfulness. He is our best friend. ❖



*Above: "Shepherds, wisemen, Joseph and Mary with Baby Jesus."*

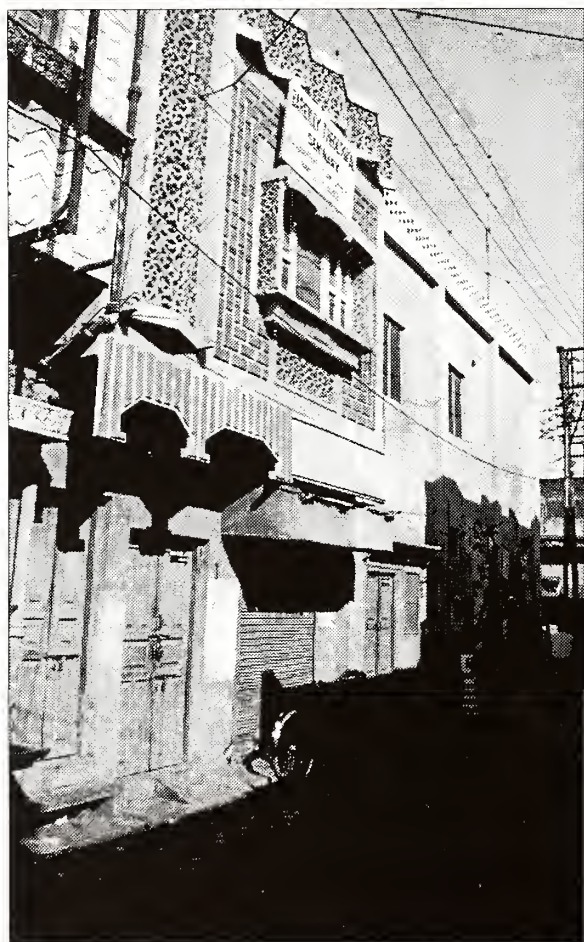
**W**e are indebted to God for the tremendous blessings being received from Him in a wonderful way that we can hardly imagine.

Our work in Nepal is gaining momentum in the field of evangelism and the younger generation is becoming cautious of their eternity. Enthusiasm is growing among the ladies who are illiterate but alive to their religious obligations. When we see them joining the worship service, we feel that they are tired of pagan worship and are looking for one God eternal. The schools in the new buildings built by the Board of Foreign Missions under the leadership of our Director-Treasurer the Rev. Harold Jones, are progressing in enrollment and quality education, day by day. The ministers and deacons in Nepal are more actively engaged in their work.

In the churches in India the interest is growing to organize women's work for education and developing the ladies in the church. I quite recollect that back in the year 1975, the Indian women were lagging behind in attending the normal worship services and even if some did, they kept on hiding their faces according to ancient Indian culture. The Rev. Norman Ard, then Chairman of the Board of Foreign Missions, while visiting India, wondered over such a state of affairs. However, in the span of these two and a half decades of time the situation has rapidly changed. Mrs. B. N. Massey, wife of a retired minister has undertaken to lead this program in our church.

Since the establishment of Free Will Baptist Church in India the need for a Theological Seminary has been felt. However, we did not have an appropriate place for it, so we kept on conducting training programs twice a year to impart the basic education in theology to our deacons, who after a lapse of time are elevated as ministers. "The building is now available to run a small theological seminary of our denomination from





Above: Bareilly Bible Seminary.

Below: Secretary presenting a draft for the hospital trust.



Above: The Rev. Anita Lall receiving awards.

July, 2001, and the program is underway.

We also had our ministerial council meeting on February 1, 2001, with discussions related mostly to the future of the church in the wake of restrictions, legislations, and lawlessness affecting the cause of conversions. It was also viewed that many church denominations are failing or turning away from evangelism for fear of life and property. Ours is the only church denomination active in northern India and is nicknamed for mass proselytizing activities.

Surprisingly enough, the church has acquired an appreciable piece of land measuring 485 square yards adjacent to our office, which is the most prime location in the city, for raising a charitable hospital to feed the church in the unforeseen circumstances so far as receipt of foreign funds are concerned. We had an urgent meeting of our Executive Board on Friday, February 16, 2001, to discuss at length the prospects of the proposed hospital under a separate "Trust." Some of our people also viewed the site and are seen in the photographs.



## Bayanihan Evangelism

Last November 17-20, 2000, the Central District Worker's went to Bgy, Inagawan to fulfill the great Commission given by God.

Since Catholicism is very strong in this area, so the worker here, Sister Lilibeth Dancil and her husband Brother Boy Dancil, stand firm on the promises of God, that His Word will not return void to Him.

By God's grace we are able to sow the precious seed in the dry ground, believing it will bring fruits. Praise God for those receptive hearts who received the Word happily and are now continuing the process of learning through rigid Bible Studies in their house, made by His servant here.

May the Lord empower the new believer to live for God alone. ❖

*Below: Sharing the Gospel in Inagawan Bayanihan Evangelism.*



The millennium 2000 was of unique achievement that, all over, church congregations resolved to undertake repairs and white washing of church properties. The Church at Bareilly has pioneered the project and spent Rs. 88.00.00, i.e, \$1913.00 from December 2000 to this date. Every penny earned through the church land any allied projects is spent for the church.

The telephone call from the Rev. Anil Lall, my eldest son, completing Bachelor of Divinity from Union Biblical Seminary in Central India, saying that he will join work with us from April, 2001, is a great consolation to me. The

youngest son, Anup and his wife are doing marvelous in their studies of Bachelor of Theology at the Allahabad Bible Seminary. Ahup's wife is second to none in music and sports. She stood first overall in sports and got all the prizes! They are equally good in their theological studies and are grateful for the opportunity given to them. ❖

*Below: Free Will Baptist Church at Bareilly, India.*



*Left: Birthday Service for the son of Brother Mon-Mon and Sister Villarosa and family, held during Bayanihan Evangelism.*







Left to Right: Wesley Taylor, Don Batchelor, Brian Batchelor, and Brownie.

## Campus Improvement

Over the past few months our campus has taken on a new decor of color. Plants and shrubs have been replaced with new ones. We are lucky to have the dedication and de-

termination that Mr. Don Batchelor has given our campus for many years, not only outside but also within each cottage. Thanks to him our campus is beautiful. ❖

On March 23, the Rev. Roney Bunn (right) presented Mr. Gary Lee (left) with a \$500.00 check from Woodmen of the World Lodge 1087. The dedication of the members of Lodge 1087 is remarkable. Thanks again for helping us to continue to meet the needs of children and families. ❖



55th Annual  
Alumni  
Homecoming  
July 8, 2001



## Hang On

Times are tough, and the road is rough,  
But hang on.

You can do anything you put  
the mind to,

Just hang on.

Trust in the Lord and  
Thy shall receive.

You must hang on,  
Look up to the hills,  
God Cares.

You don't believe me,  
But please hang on.

It's going to get easier  
Just trust me,

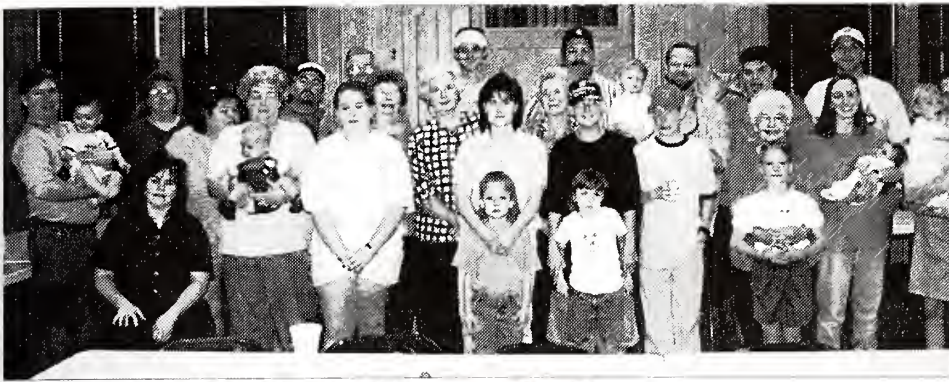
Accept Christ and see what happens.

You accepted and see what happened,  
Times are easier; roads are easier to  
travel,

This what happens when you accept.  
God does care and He has blessed you,  
You're whatever you were before.

Makeisha W.  
Smith Cothdige





**T**he Young Women's Circle of St. Mary's Grove Church, Benson, NC, made and delivered Easter baskets for each resident of our campus and emergency shelters on April 11. Thank you for remembering and caring. ❖

## A Tribute to All Fathers

**A** "Father" is the special person that God places in our life to laugh with, share with, learn from, and love. Father's Day is the Sunday set aside to honor and remember the special "Father" in your life.

This Father's Day we would like to invite you to give tribute to your special "Father" by helping the residents of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Your gift will enable us to serve children and families in need of Christian love, understanding, and care.

We realize that your special "Father" has worked hard to provide you the same care that we strive to give our resi-

dents. Maybe you remember a special moment or have a cherished memory. Your special someone may be someone who has even been a father figure to you.

We invite you to express your love and respect for your special "Dad" this Father's Day by completing and returning the form below with your special gift. Each father will receive a letter and acknowledgement of honor. Each memorial gift will be sent to the family you choose to receive your acknowledgement.

Your support of our ministry is greatly appreciated. ❖

\*\*\*\*\*

❖ Gift In Memory or Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please Circle Your Choice)

❖ Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Address \_\_\_\_\_

❖ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Church (If Free Will Baptist) \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Name \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Address \_\_\_\_\_

❖ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Mail to: FWB Childrens Home, Inc., PO Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557-0249

\*\*\*\*\*

**A**n April 21, members of Rains Crossroads Church of Kenly, NC, was given a tour of our campus. After the tour residents and staff were treated to a "country" buffet with desserts. After a great meal devotions were shared. We welcome each member to visit again. ❖

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Desk Lamps
- ☐ Large Electric Griddles
- ☐ Large Electric Fry Pans
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games  
(*Jeopardy, Winnie The Pooh, Ms. Pac Man*)
- ☐ 5 Wooden Glider Swings
- ☐ Mechanical Pencils
- ☐ Board Games (*Bible Bingo, Girl Talk, Operation, Battleship*)
- ☐ Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Pole Lamps
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD Rom Encyclopedia

**Remember To  
Mark Your Calendars:**

***Friends Of Children Day  
Saturday, November 10, 2001***

**Whitley Center**



## Evans Inducted Into Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society



Laurie Evans, a sophomore at Mount Olive College, was recently inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Lambda chapter of Sigma Tau Delta. Sigma Tau Delta is the International English Honor Society that promotes cultural stimulation on the College campus, fosters the discipline of English in all aspects, and promotes good fellowship among its members. Inductees must have demonstrated high achievement in English language and literature in undergraduate studies and have exhibited high standards of academic excellence.

Laurie, the daughter of Tommy and Marcia Evans, is a member of Kenly Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County. She was also elected secretary of Sigma Tau Delta for the 2001-2002 academic year. ❖



Above: (left to right): The Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister; Dr. David Hines, chair of the department of religion; Dr. Hunter; Dr. Tyanna Day, professor of religion; and Charles Waters, junior at Mount Olive College from New Bethlehem Church in Pamlico County.

## Harrison Lecture Held

Mount Olive College held its tenth annual Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Lecture in April. Dr. George G. Hunter, Dean of the E. Stanley Jones School of World Mission and Evangelism at Asbury Theological Seminary, spoke on "The Celtic Way: An Old Pattern of Evangelism for a New Century." Dr. Hunter also spoke at the College's Easter Convocation.

Hunter began with a brief overview of the life of Saint Patrick and his work in Ireland. He then compared the form of evangelism used by Patrick and others in bringing the Druid people into a saving knowledge of Christ and how a similar form can be used in today's evangelical efforts.

Hunter has been the dean of E. Stanley Jones School since the school was launched in 1983. A coveted speaker, he has led or addressed seminars for more

than 30 denominations in 14 countries. He has authored eight successful books, including *How to Reach Secular People*, *Church for the Unchurched*, and *The Celtic Way*.

The Vivian B. Harrison Lecture was established by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison in memory of his late wife. The purpose of the lecture is to provide a medium for continuing education for the ministers and laypersons of North Carolina.

Mrs. Harrison was a graduate of Mount Olive College and Barton College, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary education. She taught public school in North Carolina for 17 years before retiring in 1986 due to illness.

Mr. Harrison has served as campus minister at Mount Olive College since 1971 and teaches courses in practical theology. ❖



## McCoys Establish Scholarship in Parents' Honor

**B**rothers Romey L. and Winfred "Wendy" S. McCoy have established an endowed scholarship at Mount Olive College in honor of their parents, Woodley F. and Lucy G. McCoy, who are members of Core Creek Church near Cove City. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist worthy students who are seeking a business or education degree.

Mrs. McCoy retired in 1989 after 33 years in the teaching profession, and Mr. McCoy retired in 1994 after a career as a pipefitter.

In establishing the scholarship, Romey and Wendy said their desire was to honor their parents for their love and support and their willingness to provide them with an excellent education. Both Romey and Wendy attended Mount Olive College where they received their associate's degrees in business.

Romey, who now lives in Raleigh, is a Revenue Field Auditor II (Team Leader) with the State of North Carolina. Wendy is Branch Manager of National City Mortgage and lives in Wilmington.

Recipients of the McCoy scholarship must demonstrate evidence of good character, a commitment to attaining an edu-



*Above: Left to Right, Dr. W. Burkett Raper, Romey McCoy, Lucy McCoy, Woodley "Buck" McCoy, Winfred S. "Wendy" McCoy, and Diane Riley.*

cation, an attitude of perseverance, and a love for people.

The Endowed Scholarship Certificate was presented to Mr. and Mrs. McCoy on Christian Education Sunday at Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Cove City during the 11:00 AM Worship Service.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, director of planned giving and president emeritus at Mount Olive College brought the morning message. Ms. Dianne B. Riley, director of alumni relations assisted with the "surprise" presentation. ❖

## Piner Demonstrates Excellence

**B**rad Piner, a junior at Mount Olive College, is not just an ordinary student. Since day one, Brad has demonstrated higher standards and success in every endeavor. He has held leadership positions in several campus organizations and has been a member of the College Concert Choir and Free Spirit. In the last month of this academic year, Brad was recognized for his accomplishments on several different occasions.

On April 1, Brad was awarded first place in the quantitative methods and business law competitions at the State Leadership Conference Competition of the North Carolina State Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL). Four hundred and twenty-one students, advisers, and guests representing thirty-two chapters



attended the competition held in Raleigh, North Carolina. Brad will now compete at the national level July 4-7, in Orlando, Florida.

At Mount Olive College's spring Con-

cert Choir performance on April 20, Brad received the Ellen Walker Hurd Director's Award for dedication and contribution to the College's Concert Choir. Brad is the first recipient of this monetary award.

On the College's Awards Day, held on April 26, Brad received the 2001 Citation for Outstanding Student of the Year in Business. He was also recognized as a College Marshal and as a member of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. This is Brad's third year of serving as a College Marshal.

A member of Juniper Chapel Church in Craven County, Brad is the son of David and Angie Piner. Brad plans to graduate in May 2002 with a bachelor of science degree in accounting. ❖



## Children of Ministers Find Second Home

Mount Olive College students can be categorized in many ways—by sports interest, by major, by hometown, etc. However, a select group of eight students on campus are uniquely categorized by their father's occupations—all eight of the students' fathers are Free Will Baptist Ministers.

Each of the students had a different reason for attending the institution, but they all agree that they were attracted to the small, friendly atmosphere of the College and the one-on-one attention provided by the professors.

"I was homeschooled until high school and I liked the fact that Mount Olive could provide me with a similar one-on-one learning experience," said Bryan Williamson, son of the Rev. Aubrey and Mrs. Carla Williamson of Saint Mary's Grove Church in Johnston County.

Jonathan Skinner, son of the Rev. Doug and Mrs. Virginia Skinner of Sherron Acres Church in Durham County, likes the small environment as well, but Mount Olive was not his first choice. Jonathan originally enrolled at North Carolina State University where he quickly realized that he performed better in smaller classes that offered one-on-one attention.

"I guess the thing that first made me think about transferring to Mount Olive College was my grades. I was failing a class for the first time and it scared me. I don't learn well in big class situations and most of my classes at NC State had 50 to 100 students. I even had one class with 400 students. The classes that I did best in were the smaller ones. I also realized that I wanted to be somewhere where it was easier to find Christian friends," Jonathan noted.

As a result of Jonathan's experience, his sister Emily, who had made plans to attend a larger university as well, decided to enter Mount Olive College as a freshman at the same time Jonathan entered as a transfer.

It was the location of the College and the friendliness of the professors that drew



*Above: L-R) Sarah Crumpler, daughter of Joe ('75) and Cathy ('86) Crumpler; Alison Williams, daughter of John ('73) and Arlinda ('72) Williams; Emily Skinner, daughter of Doug ('72) and Virginia Skinner. (Standing L-R) Matthew Coates, son of Donald ('77) and Suzanne Coates; Joy Daughtry, daughter of Jeff ('78) and Wanda ('79) Daughtry; Bryan Williamson, son of Aubrey ('93) and Carla ('93) Williamson; Kristen Carroll daughter of Charlie Carroll; Jonathan Skinner, son of Doug ('72) and Virginia Skinner.*

Sarah Crumpler, daughter of the Rev. Joey and Mrs. Cathy Crumpler of Sarecta Church in Duplin County, to Mount Olive College. She wanted to remain close to her family and church and knew that Mount Olive College was within commuting distance. As a visual communications major, Sarah was also impressed with the College's art department.

Even though the College is close knit, it is still large enough for students to experience independence. Joy Daughtry's father, the Rev. Jeff Daughtry, was hired as assistant director of planned giving during Joy's freshman year. However, her father's presence on campus does not bother Joy. She says her experience has been the same as if he was not on campus. Joy's mother is Wanda Daughtry.

All eight of the students' involvement in extracurricular activities vary with some participating in the College Concert Choir and Free Spirit, the student government association, sports teams, and Christian organizations to name a few.

Matthew Coates, who sings with the Young Disciples at Pine Level Church, has been singing to many of the same audiences with the Mount Olive College Concert Choir. "It's nice to be able to sing in some of the same places I have already been and to know some of the Free Will Baptist members in our audiences," Matthew said. He is the son of the Rev. Donald and Mrs. Suzanne Coates.

"I've had more opportunities to work in my field than I would have at other colleges," said Alison Williams, daughter of the Rev. John and Mrs. Arlinda Williams of Cragmont Assembly. Alison is majoring in recreational and leisure studies. In that department, students are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of field training and a 12-week internship. Alison has already gained experience by working at the Bryan Center in Goldsboro and plans to complete her internship this summer.

All the students have found Mount Olive College to be a place where they can succeed and develop meaningful relationships with faculty and friends.

"If I had to make the same decision over again, I would still choose Mount Olive College," Kristen Carroll, daughter of the Rev. Charlie Carroll of Wooten's Chapel Church in Johnston County and Syvonne Carroll, said. "I love the small environment and I have become closer to friends and professors than I would have been able to at a larger university."

**Second Generation Students.** Out of the eight students pictured above, not only are they the children of Free Will Baptist ministers, but the parents of seven of these students attended Mount Olive College. ❖





*Above: (front row, left to right): Mrs. Sylvia Hansley, daughter-in-law of Mr. Hansley; JaNae Joyner of Wayne County, recipient; Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro, recipient; and Mrs. Raper. (back row, left to right): The Rev. David Charles Hansley, son of Mr. Hansley; and Dr. Raper.*

## Award Given in Memory of the Rev. David W. Hansley

**T**his year's Founders Leadership Award was given in memory of the Rev. David W. Hansley, Founding Chair of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

The scholarship was presented to two rising seniors who have distinguished themselves as individuals of character and initiative and who have demonstrated strong leadership qualities. They are JaNae Joyner of Wayne County, and Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro.

The Founders Leadership Award is a scholarship sponsored by Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Ol-

ive College 1954-1995, and his wife, Rose M. Raper.

This award is given in honor and memory of those who with vision and leadership initiated the founding of the College in 1951 and those who in subsequent years have extraordinary leadership through dedicated services, leadership, and support for the advancement of the College.

The recipients were selected by a committee of faculty, student, and staff representatives. ❖

## Summer Camps at Mount Olive College

**June 4-7**—Women's Basketball Camp  
Coach Wendy Lawrence

**June 17-20**—National Exposure Baseball Camp, Coach Carl Lancaster

**June 21-24**—Private Christian Basketball Camp, Coach Bill Clingan

**June 25-28**—Basketball Day Camp,  
Coach Bill Clingan

**June 25-29\***—4-H Camp, Howard Scott

**July 8-12**—Soccer Day Camp, Coach Philmore George

**July 9-13**—Volleyball Day Camp,  
Coach Sharon Gregory

**July 16-20**—Softball Day Camp, Coach Sharon Gregory

**July 22-24**—Diamond Star Baseball Camp (Session 1), Coach Carl Lancaster

**July 25-27**—(Session 2) Coach Carl Lancaster

*For more information on each of these camps, contact Tina Parks at 919-658-2502, ext.3043.*

*\*For more information on the 4-H Camp, contact Wayne County Cooperative Extension Services at 919-731-1527. ❖*

## Free Will Baptist Students Graduate

**P**ictured below are some of the graduating Free Will Baptist students in front of the Alumni Cross Walk after graduation practice.

Below, (front row, left to right): Amanda Vincent of Free Union Church in Nash County and Carrie Brown of Rock Springs Church in Nash County. (back row): Amanda Anderson of Kings Cross Roads Church in Pitt County; Neal Cox, pastor of Wintergreen Church in Craven County; and Sandra Garner Willis of Crab Point Church in Carteret County. Other Free Will Baptist students graduating are Allicyn Bryan of Stoney Creek Church in Wayne County; Granville Byrd of Lee's Chapel Church in Sampson County; Roger Tee of Mount Zion Church in Wilson County; Lynn Parker of Westside Church in Lenoir County; Lisa Bunn of New Sandy Hill Church in Nash County; and Garrett Southerland of Westside Church in Lenoir County. ❖







Above: Left to right, Alison Williams, Marci Rollins, Joy Daughtry, Amanda Vincent. Back row: Brad Piner, Neal Cox.

## Free Will Baptist Students Honored at Awards Day

Nine Free Will Baptist students were among those recognized at Mount Olive College's Annual Awards Day. Alison Williams of Cragmont Assembly; Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro, Wayne County; Joy Daughtry of Westside Church, Lenoir County; Amanda Vincent of Free Union, Nash County. Back row: Brad Piner of Juniper Chapel Church, Craven County; and Neal Cox pastor at Wintergreen Church, Craven County; Bryan Williamson of St. Mary's Grove Church, Johnston County; Charles Waters of New Bethlehem Church, Pamlico County; and Garrett Southerland of Westside Church, Lenoir County.

Alison Williams is the daughter of the Rev. John and Mrs. Arlinda Williams. She received the Most Outstanding Major Award for the Department of Recreation/Leisure Studies.

Marci Rollins is the daughter of Nelson and Deborah Rollins. She received the Founders Leadership Award and was inducted into the Student Government Association for her second term as executive cabinet secretary.

Joy Daughtry is the daughter of the Rev. Jeff and Mrs. Wanda Daughtry. She was recognized for being a nominee for the Sophia H. Potts English Award and

for being a College Marshall.

Amanda Vincent is the daughter of Billy and Becky Vincent. She received the 2001 Citation for Outstanding Student of the Year in Art.

Brad Piner is the son of David and Angie Piner. He received the 2001 Citation for Outstanding Student of the Year in Business and was recognized for being a College Marshal and a member of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Neal Cox is married to Andrea Cox. He is the son of Robert Cox and Ellen Wetherington. Neal received the W. Burkette Raper Ministerial Student Award.

Bryan Williamson is the son of the Rev. Aubrey and Mrs. Carla Williamson. He was recognized for having been elected the executive cabinet vice president of the Student Government Association.

Charles "Bear" Waters Jr. is the son of Charles and Mary Alice Waters. He received the Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award.

Garrett Southerland is the son of Gary and Mary Southerland. He received the 2001 Citation for Outstanding Student of the Year in History and was recognized for being a member of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. ❖

## FWB Students Inducted Alpha Chi National Honor Society

Four Free Will Baptist students were recently inducted into Mount Olive College's Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Chi, a national interdisciplinary honor society. Membership is selected from the top ten percent of juniors and seniors who have been enrolled full-time for the academic year prior to election and who have completed at least one-half of the hours required for graduation.

The purpose of Alpha Chi is to promote and recognize scholarship and elements of character which make scholarship effective for the good among the students in the academic division of colleges and universities in the United States of America and other countries.

Those inducted were: Charles Waters of New Bethlehem Church in Pamlico County; Brad Piner of Juniper Chapel Church in Craven County; Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro in Wayne County; and Neal Cox, pastor of Wintergreen Church in Craven County. ❖



## Relatives Research History

Jo Prytherch of Oriental and Lucille H. Phillips of Greenville (above), granddaughter and daughter of the late Rev. Charlie Jackson Harris (1870-1943) recently visited Mount Olive College to research information on Mr. Harris, who served as a minister in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

While at the College Ms. Prytherch was also able to locate her own baptismal record, which was housed in the Historical Collection. The Historical Collection is open to the public. For more information contact Moye Library at (919) 658-2502. ❖



## Students Visit Paul Palmer Conference

While most Mount Olive College students spent their Easter Break with families and relaxing, a group of eight students along with the College's Alumni Director, Dianne Riley, visited the quarterly Paul Palmer Conference in Georgia.

Leaving the College's campus on Thursday, April 12, the group arrived early Friday morning at the home of David and Hallie Still from Zion Church in Blakely. From there the group was divided into groups of twos and were escorted to their host families' homes.

"The people we stayed with and the people we met at the different churches were so friendly and welcoming," Melissa Creech, a freshman from Branch Chapel Church in Johnston County, said. "They really portrayed the loving spirit of God in the way they opened their homes up to us and welcomed us at each of the services."

The group began their ministry at the churches with a service at the planning session for the conference held at Bethlehem Church near Morgan, Georgia. The church members prepared a delicious meal of pork chops, vegetables, and lemon pie. Students enjoyed meeting the people and especially seeing the familiar faces of the Rev. Bobby and Mrs. Beth Johnston and their daughters, Whitney and Julie, who spent some time in the Mount Olive and La Grange communities while Mr. Johnston was attending College and pastoring White Oak Grove.

"This trip really helped me better understand the mission of the College as it relates to ministering to people," Shannon Mixon, a sophomore from Wilson Church in Wilson County, said. "Whether we were in a church service or hanging out at someone's house, relationships were being made, and by the end of the trip I could see how we had all grown...the students and the people in Georgia." Saturday morning the group traveled to Jakin



*Above Clock wise: Sharon Zirkle of Woodbridge, VA; Marci Rollins of First Church of Goldsboro, Wayne County; Nikki McLawhon of Wayne County; Dale Belvin of Friendly Chapel Church in Guilford County; Shannon Mixon of First Church of Wilson, Wilson County; Jonathan Skinner of Sherron Acres Church in Durham County; Melissa Creech of Branch Chapel Church in Johnston County; and Emily Skinner of Sherron Acres Church in Durham County.*

Church in Jakin to hold a service during the conference meeting. Members from Zion, Bethlehem, Jakin, White Pond, and White Oak Churches were present for the conference, lunch, and service.

"As I looked at the congregation on Saturday I saw people crying because our singing or our words had touched them. I find it amazing that God can use us, as students, to minister to other people, and at the same time allow the people to minister to us," Nikki McLawhon of Wayne County, said.

Saturday evening was spent with the senior citizens at Zion Church. Several students commented that this was an especially enjoyable part of the trip because they were able to relax a little and enjoy seeing the senior citizens hunt eggs in the churchyard.

Sunday morning was spent at Zion and Sunday evening was spent at the Still's home with children and youth from all the churches. The children enjoyed watching *Veggie Tales* videos and playing *Sticky Situations*, while the youth had a more serious service complete with Communion and Washing of the Saints' Feet. This service was led by the Rev. Dale Belvin, a freshman from Friendly Chapel Church in Guilford County.

"This was my second trip to the Paul Palmer Conference," Marci Rollins, a junior from Goldsboro First Church in Wayne County, said. "This time I was able to get to know the people better and discuss with them everyday situations that pertain to their churches and ours. I

think it is important that we keep in touch with our churches in the Paul Palmer Conference so they feel included in the entire denomination and so that we are made to realize how important all our churches are to the denomination. There is a lot of history in our denomination in Georgia and we can learn so much from those people."

When it was time to leave on Monday morning the students commented they felt they had known everyone in Georgia forever. Hugs and tears were shared as the students prepared for the eleven-hour trip back to the College. Several students talked to the Stills about returning next year and a few were considering attending camp, sponsored by the Paul Palmer Conference, this summer. The entire group enjoyed every bit of the trip from all of the good southern cooking and hospitality, to the fellowship and worship, and to the high-strung spirits of the nine-year-old twin boys of one of the families at Zion.

"I thought I knew what southern hospitality was," Jonathan Skinner, a junior of Sherron Acres Church in Durham County, said. "But now I really know." ❖





## Learning In The Summer "Give Us Jesus"

John 14:6

**T**he Coastal Mid-Atlantic Christian Education Association (MACEA) will hold its 2001 session on Saturday, August 18, 2001, at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, New Bern, NC. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM with workshops beginning at 9:00 AM and ending at 4:00 PM. There will be opportunity for each person to attend 5 workshops during the day. There will be 50 workshops—something for everyone! The workshop leaders are knowledgeable and have much expertise in their areas. Day Care workers will be granted CEU credit and certificates for workshops attended. The registration fee is \$20.00 per person which includes lunch and snacks.

The workshop topics include:

### Early Childhood:

- *11 Things You Gotta Know About Teaching Preschoolers*—Dr. John McMurphy
- *The Challenge and Teaching of*

*Preschoolers (Birth - 4 Years)*—Ms. Kay Wilbanks

• *Tools of the Trade...Preschoolers Under Construction*—Ms. Sherli Morgan

• *Ready to Go (Preparation for Teaching a Preschool Class)*—Ms. Sherli Morgan

• *Bible Learning for Preschoolers*—Ms. Karen Brown

### Elementary:

• *The Challenge of Children and Ideas for Lesson Planning (Grades 1-5)*—Ms. Kay Wilbanks

• *Dynamic Teaching*—Dr. John McMurphy

• *The Lost Art of Storytelling*—The Rev. James Bearden

• *Catch 'em at the Back Door*—Dr. John McMurphy

• *Classroom Discipline for Grades 1-6*—Ms. Karen Brown

• *Guided Conversations with Children*—Ms. Karen Brown

### Youth:

• *Decoding the Music of Teens (Parts 1 & 2)*—Mr. Clint Echols

• *The Youth Worker You're Looking For (Youth Ministry begins with Shepherds not Sheep)*—Mr. Clint Echols

• *"Not Quite Doing It"—Unhealthy Sexual Behavior in Teens*—Mr. Clint Echols

• *Jawdroppers (Communications with Teens)*—Mr. Steven James

• *Generation Why?: Understanding Today's Youth Culture*—Mr. Steven James

• *Bottomless Bag of Tricks*—Mr. Steven James



## Adults:

- *Teaching Adults with Confidence*—The Rev. Ted Wilbanks
- *Adult Learning Styles and Bible Teaching*—The Rev. Ted Wilbanks
- *Spiritual Formation*—Dr. Tyanna Day
- *Techniques of Planning Lessons / Programs for Adults*—Dr. Tyanna Day

## Administration:

- *The 21st Century Sunday School*—The Rev. James Bearden
- *How to Nurture Your Staff in the 21st Century*—The Rev. James Bearden
- *Organizing Your Sunday School for Growth*—The Rev. Ted Wilbanks

## Teacher Preparation:

- *The Seven Laws of Teaching (Part 1 & 2)*—Mr. Eddie Grigg
- *Getting Ready for Sunday*—Dr. John McMurphy

## Church Growth:

- *Beginning a Disability Ministry (Part 1 and 2)*—Ms. Mary Dudley
- *Accessible Congregations*—Mr. Keith Letchworth & Mr. Hulon Whitehead

## Women:

- *Effective Keys to Touching Women's Lives*—Ms. Sherli Morgan
- *Women of Color: Key to Change*—Ms. Janet Garner-Mullins

## Pastors:

- *The Church and the Law—Parts 1, 2 and 3*—Each part will have a different focus.—Dr. Mike Barnhill

## General:

- *Bible Geography*—The Rev. John H. Roller
- *Survey of the Bible Parts 1 and 2*—The Rev. John H. Roller
- *How We Got the Bible*—The Rev. John H. Roller
- *Creation or Evolution; Two Science Models*—Mr. Charles Leibert
- *Genesis One*—Mr. Charles Leibert
- *Noah's Flood and Other Bible History*—Mr. Charles Leibert
- *Dinosaurs, Created by God*—Mr. Charles Leibert
- *The Implications of Evolution*—Mr. Charles Leibert

## Music:

- *Learning Through Music*—Ms. Rebecca King

There will be displays of literature and other materials from Standard Publishing Company, Cook Communication Ministries, Gospel Light, Evangelical Training Association, New Life Seminary, Free Will Baptist Press, Classroom Connection, Excel Communications, Operation Christmas Child, Mount Olive College, Breaking Bread Together, The Shepherd Shoppe, Church Insurance, Cragmont Assembly, Answers in Genesis Ministry, MACEA and others.

For further information about getting on the mailing list or registration, contact Mrs. Mary Dudley, Director of Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry and Co-coordinator of Coastal MACEA, at Original Free Baptist Headquarters, PO Box 39, Ayden, NC, 28513. The phone number is (252) 746-4963 and the e-mail address is ofwbconvhq@coastalnet.com.❖

## Layman's League

The Layman's League State Convention met on May 2, 2001, at Harrell's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church. Devotions were led by Mr. Ledford Wilson, president of the Harrell's Chapel Layman's League. The business session was led by State President, Elmer Harrell. Three Conferences were represented, five pastors were present and thirty-five layman's League members.

## Dates to Remember

**June 4**—Central Conference Layman's League, Elm Grove Church, Ayden, NC. Meal, 6:45 PM, business session, 7:30 PM.

**June 11**—Executive and Promotional Board meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**July 9**—Executive and Promotional Board meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**August 13**—Executive and Promotional Board meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**August 20**—Eastern Conference Layman's League, Camp Vandemere. Meal, 6:45 PM, business, 7:30 PM.

**September 10**—Central Conference Layman's League, King's Cross Roads, Farmville, NC. ❖

**Join us for a day of learning  
and fellowship!**



## Camp Vandemere

*"Send out thy light and truth..." Psalm 43:3*

**G**reetings from Camp Vandemere. May God's blessings be on all our churches. We are thankful for God's blessings here at Camp Vandemere, and we are thankful for the support of our denomination. It is through your support and prayers that Camp Vandemere exists and young people are able to hear the gospel at their level and have fellowship with other young Christians. Often, as a young Christian, they feel that they are alone in their fellowship with the Lord. We believe these weeks of camp bring encouragement to our young. Again, thank you.

The camping season started out early this year. We had our first weekend group in April with two more following. At the present time, dates are being booked into October, with the first weekend being booked from Mount Olive College. On May 5, the Third Union had its Conference meeting at Camp Vandemere, with nine churches, and a total of sixty people present that day. They had a great day of song and worship for the Lord with the Rev. Everett Harper bringing the music and message.

I would like to thank all the churches that came to help clean up on our scheduled work day. We had a good time fellowshiping and cleaning up the camp. We thank the pastor and layworkers from the following Free Will Baptist Churches: Memorial, Spring Hope (Bridgeton), Juniper Chapel, Sandy Plains, Arapahoe, New Bethlehem, and Bethany.

There is a lot that is going on at Camp Vandemere that I hope will bring a better quality and use of the camp. At the present, as many of you know, we are having the in-ground pool built to state codes. Part of these regulations say there must be someone who is state certified to operate the pool. This has been ac-

complished and all is in order. It is my goal to have the pool open by May 25 for our first youth group, directed by the Rev. Ray Conners. There will soon be some added swings to the camp that will bring even more enjoyment to the campers. A lot of this was in last month's paper so I will not bore you anymore.

I would like to share with all the churches something that my wife Lynda has been working on for the last two months. This project will enable us to inform our churches as to what is going on at Camp Vandemere. By the time this article is printed, Camp Vandemere will have its own web site. This will enable the churches to see what is going on at anytime during the year, with a monthly calendar. You can e-mail or fax the camp to schedule a time for your church or group events. This will be put in the calendar for others to see as well. Any changes can be made in a matter of a few minutes. This will keep everyone in our churches up to-date around the clock.

You can reach our Web Site at [www.campvandemere.org](http://www.campvandemere.org). I am excited about this new information that will better serve you and your families. I thank you for all your prayers and support of Camp Vandemere and may God bless everyone.—The Rev. Michael Williams, Manager. ❖

## THOUGHTS FOR LIVING

*by Dr. Thomas M. Parrish*

**M**any people aspire to achieve greatness. But when we set our sights on the splendors of this world, we are in danger of losing sight of our riches in Christ. As Christians, we have the privilege and responsibility to serve our Lord. We will achieve the greatest pleasure when we serve Jesus to our utmost. Seeking to be His humble and faithful servants will bring us all the feelings of greatness we will ever need. Remember, Jesus said, "And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be the servant of all" (Mark 10:44).

Just as His disciples needed to follow the example of Jesus, so do we. He gave His life as a ransom for many. That includes us. Let us serve Him with our totally committed lives. We have a life only because He provided us with one. Paul wrote to the Roman Christians a message that aptly applies to us: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1-2). The extent to which a Christian is successful in doing what these Scripture verses instruct will be the measure of his greatness in God's Kingdom. ❖

*When we set our sights  
on the splendors  
of this world,  
we are in danger of  
losing sight of  
our riches in Christ.*



## Happy R. Taylor, Smith's New Home Original Free Will Baptist Auxiliary Woman of the Year

Below: Left to Right, Happy Taylor and Annie Ruth Parrish.

During a church service on Sunday morning, March 4, 2001 at Smith's New Home Original Free Will Baptist Church, Happy R. Taylor, was named "Woman of the Year." Following is the presentation given by Annie Ruth Parrish.

Every member of our auxiliary is important, but we have one member who has given so very much of her time and talent not only to our local auxiliary, but in the Eastern District and North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention as well.

Happy R. Taylor has held offices on all levels of work. In our local auxiliary, she has served in most of the offices and now as vice president. In the Eastern District, she has served as field secretary, program prayer chairman and four terms as president and now, secretary. She has served in the State Auxiliary Convention as program prayer chairman, three terms as president and now, compiling co-editor of the *Devotion*. She has written programs for the *Devotion* and has taught study courses for us here at our church, as well as in other churches throughout Eastern North Carolina. She has received the Life Membership Award from the District and State Conventions.

She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Barrow Endowment at Mount Olive College. In the Eastern District, she is a member of the Digest Committee and a member of the Executive Committee of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. She has served on the Camp Vandemere Board of Directors and The Retirement Home Board. She organized the first Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere and served as the director for ten years.

Happy is a life member at Smith's New Home Original Free Will Baptist Church. She has taught Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, served as church treasurer and youth director. During the year of our church celebrating 100 years of service, she served as chairman of the year's activities. For several years under her direction, we have enjoyed "Hanging of the Greens" during the holiday season. Our auxiliary adopted the project of cookbooks and we owe a lot of credit to Happy for her long hours of typing and proofreading.

With the help of the pastor, The Rev. James A. Evans, she organized and taught Kindergarten at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston from 1969-1977, at which time she became Manager of the Kinston Free Will Baptist Bible and Bookstore.

In 1982 she and her husband, John, went to work at Mount Olive College. She is the first full-time Manager of the Campus Bookstore.

She is the daughter of the late Estelle and Webster Riggs of Deep Run in Lenoir County, the wife of John W., mother of Lawanna and Wesley, mother-in-law of William and Janice, grandmother to John Alexander Taylor, and Anna, Will, and Jennifer Taylor Whitfield.

She quietly goes about the task of getting the job done, often picking up members and taking them to and from the scheduled functions. She did not do all these things in one year, but over a period of a number of years, yet they have been a great benefit to us at Smith's New Home Church and to others in our denomination.

Our local members want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Happy for the big jobs that she accepts and sees to completion. We are grateful to her.

Happy, please come forward and accept this corsage, wear it with pride, knowing we deeply appreciate your efforts in our local auxiliary and also on the district and state levels. You are a link of information and inspiration from those levels to us.

We also want to give you this certificate for a pre-paid week for the Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere, June 18-21. May God bless you and all the other campers with a week of beautiful weather, a spiritual renewal, and only a few mosquitoes.

May God bless you as you continue working in His vineyard. We are glad you are on our team. ❖





by: Rita Otto Jones

## News From Powhatan

**H**appy Father's Day to all Dads this month from Powhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, NC. Christian fathers have the responsibility of teaching the Word and moral values to their children. The best lesson is taught by a daily life that reflects love for the Father of us all.

Saturday, April 7, was a busy day for two groups at Powhatan. The youth sponsored a yard sale to raise additional funds for Relay for Life. A "thank you" to all who came out early and helped. Officers of the Woman's Auxiliary attended the Cape Fear District meeting at Smithfield First Free Will Baptist the same day. President Sandra Peedin, Treasurer Julie Capps, Recording Secretary Rita Jones, Study Course Chairman Ann Narron, Missions Chairman Margaret Johnson, and guest Ollie Brady enjoyed the morning of fellowship. Melissa Creech of Mount Olive College and Angela Warren of Robert's Grove provided some special musical numbers, and new district officers were installed. Updates were given by denominational ministries. Becky Jo Sumner brought the message on using hardships in life to build strength and wisdom. "You enjoy soaring like an eagle, but you learn more by creeping like a turtle and encountering every aspect of life's journey, good or bad. If we wait upon the Lord, we have His promise that when this life is through, we will all take flight to our reward," she stated.

Spring Revival was held the week of April 9-13 with the Rev. Jerry Stephenson and his wife joining with us each night. Special music each evening was from Powhatan groups, Vandora Springs groups, and even from Rev. Stephenson and his wife Susie! It was a treat to have them with us all week.

Woman's Auxiliary members Sandra Peedin, Diana Bass, Julie Capps, Ann Narron, Becky Hardin, Nell Carrington, Margaret Johnson, Ollie

Brady, Andrea Davis, and Sarah Carroll attended Morning Star Weekend at Cragmont April 20-22. Ann's sister also went with the group. They enjoyed the fellowship and are hoping to go back again.

On Saturday, April 28, Rev. Bogle, Sandra Peedin, Phillip James, and I attended the Cape Fear Union Meeting at West Clinton. We missed our turn and arrived a little late, but enjoyed the special singing and the message by the Rev. Kenneth Phillips. Thank you to the host church for the hospitality and for the delicious meal served afterwards. We encourage churches to take part in the Union Meetings. The Cape Fear's next one will be July 28 at Wooten's Chapel.

The gospel group Covenant joined with Powhatan for a fifth Sunday night service on April 29. The youth sponsored this event because group members Bryant Hines and Craig Simmons are directors at Cragmont during the week they attend. Pray for our campers during the week of June 11-16, as some are going for the week for the first time. Thank you to the volunteers who go each summer to work with our youth.

The oldest member of Powhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton is Brother J.C. Blinson. He will be 89 years young in June. The following article was written by Brother Blinson and was printed in the May 7, 1947, issue of *The Free Will Baptist*.

### Making Excuses

*"And they all with one consent began to make excuses..." (Luke 14:18).*

I believe we are living in a day when there are more excuses made than ever before. As a people and as Christians we need to wake up to a sense of duty and be about our Father's business. He tells us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. Let us remember our obligations; we are not to sit

down on the stool of do nothing and fold our hands. I declare unto you church members that there is something for every one of us to do. God is not pleased with us when we make excuses and fail to do what He would have us to do. According to my Bible, these excuses will not stand in the Day of Judgment. All of us are going to have to give an account of our stewardship to God.

Would we not like to hear those comforting words that He spoke to the man with the talents? "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joys of thy Lord" (Matthew 25:21). Do not hide your talents but use them for the glory of the Lord. Let us realize what He has done for us. He gives us life, breath, and all good things, and even went to Calvary's Cross and died a shameful death that we might live. Isn't it wonderful to know that we can live forever? That is what Jesus our Lord did for us.

We are reminded of the words, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not" (John 1:11). Christ wept over Jerusalem. Is He not grieving over America today? Yes, I think He is. The people are so careless and so disobedient to His commands. They are so much concerned about material things that will vanish away some day. We need to think on Heavenly things that will last throughout all eternity. Let us wake up, dear people, and not be making excuses, but let us hold the light of Jesus a little higher so some poor sinner can see the wonderful light that Jesus would have us to see.

Let us go to the quarterly meetings of the church and to Sunday school, and to the prayer meetings so we might be about our Father's business. There is a blessing for everyone if we will do our Christian duty in the name of the Lord. ❖



## Smyrna Youth Competition Winners

by Helen W. Smith

**T**he youth of Smyrna Church (Cape Fear Conference) in the Meadow community, Benson, NC, brought home the gold and silver from the Cape Fear youth competition recently held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro.

Daniel Wood, son of Sonja and Rodney Wood, received a gold medal for a pencil drawing of Jesus. Ashley Parker, daughter of David and Kim Parker, received a gold in the public speaking contest.

Ten youth participated in arts and crafts and seven (6 silver and 1 gold) winners will be state representatives in May at the State Youth Convention at Mount Olive College.

The Smyrna youth choir received silver medals with the song "Don't Want to Miss a Thing," led by Carla Allen.

A skit performed by Cherubs, Kelly and Jamie Wood, Nathan and Evan Raynor, Brittany Watson and Erin



*Above Left to Right: Front Row: Carla Allen, Daniel Wood, Kelly Wood and Jamie Lynn Wood, Evan Raynor, Nathan Raynor, Brittney Watson and Erin Parker; Center row: Armatha Noles, Savak Allen, Janice Tart, Amber Wood, Jordan Allen, Elliott McConnell and Chasen Allen; Back Row: John Caviness, Amber Allen, Ashley Parker, Laura Beth Parker, Amanda Johnson, Asia McConnell and Nicole Watson.*

Parker, were awarded silver medals.

Amber Wood received a silver medal in the AFC solo category for her rendition of "Because You Loved Me."

Amber Wood and Laura Parker performed "The Great Divine" in the AFC division and received a silver medal.

The AFC choir won a silver medal for

their song, "We Are United." Laura Parker received a silver medal for her song, "Lean On Me." Ashley Parker received a silver medal for her song "Your Love is Life to Me."

Curtis and Cindy Allen, along with David and Kim Parker are youth directors. ❖

## Over 7,000 Souls

by Dr. Timothy Webber

**I**n the pulpit of Core Point Original Free Will Baptist Church, Blounts Creek, NC, is a strange cross. It was cut out of prison bars and chrome plated. Engraved on the cross bar is "I was in prison and you visited me." The cross represents over 7,000 souls that our motorcycle riding church members and myself have assisted in leading to Jesus.

Next to seeing a sinner walk the aisle to get saved, no pastor ever had a greater feeling than to ride his machine into a prison courtyard of hundreds of inmates and look in the mirror to see his wife

and church members following. Are we afraid? The Bible says, "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him" (Proverbs 16:7).

What is our mission? We ride motorcycles into the prison to get the inmates to come out and look at them. There will be a celebrity waiting to bring the message and give the invitation. A week later you get a letter stating from 800 to 1300 souls made decisions—quite a reward to take to Heaven.

Bill Class Weekend of Champions has

ask me to take a team in prisons around the Charlotte area the weekend of October 19-21, 2001. If you have never been convicted of a felony and would like to use your motorcycle for Jesus, contact me at (252) 322-7398 or e-mail me at webber@beaufortco.com. Hurry! I need to get security clearance for you. Be prepared to see, skydivers, country singers, kick boxers, weight lifters, NASCAR No. 18, high-wire circus acts and Super Bowl champions. You see true Christians use what God has given them for His glory. ❖



## Events At Free Union

by Randy Beaman

On March 11, 2001, Free Union Original Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, NC, held an Appreciation Dinner to honor its two ministers who are now serving the church, Dr. David Hines and the Rev. Todd Sutton and their families. The dinner was held in the fellowship building. Gifts were presented to them from the Woman's Auxiliary and the Layman's League. On March 17, 2001, the Woman's Auxiliary and Layman's



League of Free Union sponsored a barbeque chicken dinner to raise money for the Relay for Life Cancer Drive. Four hundred plates were sold. We thank all who participated in this event. Other fundraising projects were held by the youth and other members of the church.

Free Union participated in the Relay for Life Walk on April 28-29 at Green Central High School. The church raised

\$17,687.13 of the total for Greene County, which exceeded \$105,462.71. A great big "thank you" to all those who contributed to this worthy cause, and a great big Thanks to the One who made all this possible—our Lord God Almighty!

The Central Conference Layman's League met at Free Union on March 5. There was a total of 205 men who at-



*Above: The Rev. Todd Sutton adds a touch to the chickens being prepared for "Relay for Life."*

*Left: The Rev. Todd Sutton. Far Left: The Rev. and Mrs. David Hines. Below: A large number attended the appreciation dinner.*



*Left: After the meal, the men began assembling for the worship service and the business session.*



tended, which was a record attendance. It was a great time of fellowship as the men partook of a wonderful meal and then assembled in the sanctuary for a wonderful time of singing, worship, and business. ❖



## Good Friday Service

Members of First Free Will Baptist Church Kinston, NC, participated in a special pre-Easter Service on Friday, April 13.

Dr. James Owens, pastor, sang "Three Rusty Nails" and spoke on Christ's seven sayings from the Cross. The congregation joined him in singing "Lead Me to Calvary," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed?" The service ended with prayer at the altar.

The altar table, decorated by Sara Alice Watson, displayed a rustic wood cross draped in black, and Communion elements, a wine decanter and loaf of bread, with two unlit candles. An easel at the left displayed an oil painting of Christ on the Cross, and a cat-o-nine-tails. The palm tree opposite it contained branches from the children's processional on Palm Sunday. Four lilies and other greenery trimmed the altar rail. The lilies were given by Kay Avery and Annette Watson, and by Mae Clark in memory of her two sons, Jimmy and Bill.

Following the service, the congregation gathered in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments. At that time Nina Grace Register, Woman's Auxiliary president, announced the Woman of the Year by presenting a potted geranium to Annette Watson, this year's honoree.

Mrs. Watson was elected by secret ballot in the three Auxiliary circles, based on her service to church, home, and community. She is a Sunday school teacher, Benevolence Committee member, Children's Church assistant, and a mainstay at church dinners.

She assists her mother in visiting the sick, frequently carrying meals to various sick and shut-in members. Her friendly, congenial personality contributes to her being one of the best-loved members of church, Sunday school, and Auxiliary. As Woman of the Year, she will be honored further on Woman's Day, the first Sunday in June. ❖



## St. Delight Reviews 2000

by Tammy Manning

This past year was a very busy year for everyone at St. Delight Original Free Will Baptist Church, Ormondsville, NC. We finally completed the outside repairs to the church with the addition of vinyl siding, and the installation of replacement windows. We also completed the new fellowship building, with the exception of covering the floor.

Youth services were held each quarter. During these services, all the children and teenagers held both the Sunday school and morning worship services. The speakers during the morning worship services were Colt Page in January, Shane Joyner in May, and Dwayne Owens in October. During the evening services on "Youth Sunday," we held singspirations in which many people within the church participated.

We had a sunrise service Easter morning, followed by breakfast. An Easter egg hunt was held after the morning worship service.

In August, we held Bible school. Our theme this year was "Racing for Jesus" and it was concluded on Sunday night when we held our "Bible School Commencement" program.

Our mothers, fathers, and grandparents were honored on Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Grandparent's Day. Our veterans were honored for their service to our country on Veteran's Day and those who lost their lives serving our country were memorialized on Memorial Day.

We honored our pastor, Rev. Jack Weathersby and his wife, Doris, on "Pastor Appreciation Day" and "Pastor Program Appreciation Day." Due to an auto-

mobile accident in April, Rev. Weathersby was unable to hold services for five months due to a broken neck. Our interim speaker was Greg Nethercutt. He and his wife, Joan, did a wonderful job filling in for Rev. Weathersby.

In June, we took our annual church trip to Camp Vandemere. We had a wonderful time singing, fishing, and paddle boating.

Our homecoming service was held in September followed by fall revival. The Rev. David Langley was our fall revival speaker and the Rev. Mike Scott held our spring revival. In addition to a whitewater rafting trip to Virginia with the teenagers, we had several yard sales, a donut sale, a trip to Baker's Pool in Kinston, and several cookouts including a fall festival in October.

The neighborhood Thanksgiving service was held at our church for the first time. The service was followed by refreshments. Our Laymen's League sponsored our annual turkey shoot in November with a barbeque chicken dinner.

The Laymen's League hosted a "Ladies Night" where they cooked for the ladies. Christmas parties were given for the children and adults which consisted of playing games, singing, and opening gifts.

The Ladies Circle held their Christmas party at "Dave Can Cook" and then went to Tim and Tammy Manning's house for games. The year ended with a Christmas play, refreshments, and a New Year's Eve service, singspiration, and refreshments.

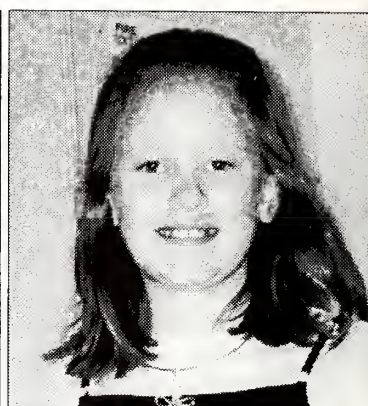
As you can see, being true "Free Will Baptists," eating and fellowshiping with our sisters and brothers in Christ was a major part of our year. ❖



## Pleasant Hill Youth Rock!

**T**he youth groups of Pleasant Hill Church, Grimesland, NC, have been busy over the last few months working to raise money to go to Cragmont later this month. They started off by sponsoring a chili supper in March.

In April they participated in a 12-hour Rock-A-Thon. The children got people to sponsor them for each hour they rocked or just a single donation. David Grant, a member of the youth group who is too young to attend Cragmont this year, wanted to help raise money at the Rock-A-Thon, so he got people to sponsor him also. One of the women in the church, Mrs. Bonnie Adams, decided that she would sponsor him at five dollars an hour. No one, including David, thought he would "rock" for more than a couple of hours. Much to the surprise of a good many people, most especially "Mrs. Bonnie", he "rocked" the night



*Above and Left: Morgan Taylor dropping in pennies for the Children's Home. Right: Taylor Pope raised the most money for the Rock-A-Thon.*

corporate worship, praise, Bible study, and to rekindle friendships with other children they met last year.

After all the hard work, the children also had a Paper Goods and Penny Drive to help out with expenses and raise money for the Children's Home. They had been saving pennies since

January and on Saturday, May 19 they delivered the pennies and other goods donated by church members. After leaving the Children's Home, they had a wonderful time at the Flea Market in Raleigh. And after all the hard work they put in, they certainly deserved a little rest and relaxation! ❖

*Left and Below: David Grant and Norman Kirk take a break from rocking. Right: Left to right; Christy Haddock, Karen Preston, and Jenna Bowen pass the time by listening to music.*



away." Everyone involved learned several good lessons by the actions of a little boy who wanted to help. First, it always pays to help out people, even if you won't directly reap the benefits. Secondly, if you're going to do something for the Lord, do it with all you have in you. And last, always expect the unexpected!

Also in April the children had a Bake Sale at New River Pottery in Winterville.

Finally, the children "cleaned up" with their Cragmont projects by having a car wash. What a time they all had!

They all felt that all the hard work was worth it and they knew the importance of "meetin' on the mountain" for

## Smyrna Honors Graduates

**F**ive high school graduates from Smyrna Original Free Will Baptist Church, in Benson were honored during the worship service on Sunday May 20.

The graduates are from left to right,



front row, Heather Summerlin, Emily McLamb, second row, Richard Norris, Pat Noles and Justin Barefoot. ❖



# DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington



**C**harles Wesley began his new birth in Christ in May 1738. He had been a member of the Holy Club at Oxford which was led by his brother, John Wesley.

In the eighteenth century the English society was suffering from "cheap gin, rampant prostitution, and human abuse," (14) according to Clare George Weakley, Jr. The monarchy was failing and the poor suffered.

At Oxford University, John and Charles Wesley as well as George Whitefield grasped the severity of the soul problems and they sought to act to help the poor, the suffering, and the needy. The three of them were clergy of the Church of England and found themselves in controversy. Clare Weakley, Jr. notes: "Cynics found many epithets for the Holy Club and its members. One name finally stuck, being deemed properly insulting by the critics and flatteringly deceptive by its members. Those methodical doers of good works were called Methodists" (15).

A revival began in 1738 and lasted to 1784. In America in 1784, members of the revival movement "broke all ties with the Church of England and created their new denomination, The Methodist Episcopal Church" (15). Weakley tells us the break in England came later, in 1836.

## Charles Wesley's Search For Peace

In 1736, Charles Wesley left Georgia to cross the Atlantic and return to England. He had been reading William Law's *Serious Call to a Devout Life* as well as Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion* and Luther's writings on Galatians. He tells us about his search for peace in his journal entries of October 1736. He writes of his witness to other passengers in the violent storm: "I returned to the other passengers and endeavored to

Charles Wesley, *At Peace With God*, in John Wesley, Charles Wesley, and George Whitefield, *The Nature of Revival*. Compiled, edited, and abridged by Clare George Weakley, Jr. Minneapolis: Bethany House publishers, 1987. 31-53.

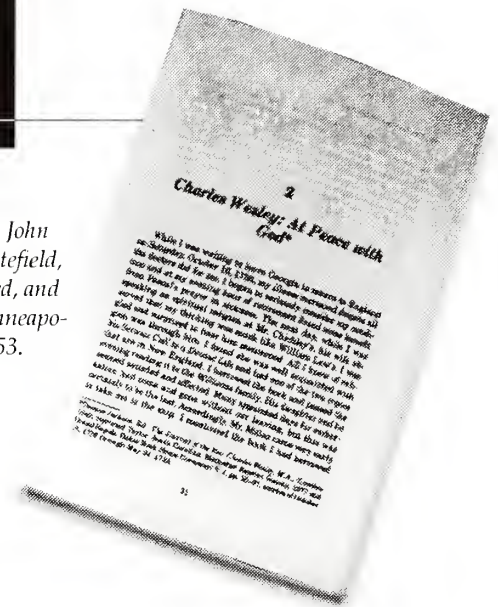
show them that their fear reflected their lack of spiritual life, which was intended for our support on such occasions. I urged them to resolve, if God saved them from this distress, that they would instantly and entirely give themselves up to Him" (34).

The ship faced a hurricane later and a report of Charles Wesley's death was sent to England. A safe arrival, however, came. Wesley writes when he touched land: "I knelt down and blessed Him who had conducted me through such inextricable mazes, and asked that I might give up my country again to God when He should require that of me" (38).

## Controversial Issues of Faith

While Charles Wesley was in London in 1737, he found himself in an argument with his brother John over the issue of conversion being gradual or instantaneous. Charles believed in a gradual conversion, but John believed in an instantaneous conversion. John Wesley "mentioned some late instances of gross sinners believing in a moment" (42). Charles writes in his journal: "I was much offended at his, I thought, worse-than-unedifying discourse. A lady left the meeting abruptly, but I stayed and insisted a man need not know when first he had faith. John's obstinacy in favoring the contrary opinion at last drove me out of the room" (42-43).

In Charles Wesley's own life the search for faith was a battle. He often found himself sick and close to death. Peter Bonler, John Bray, Mrs. Musgrove, and others tried to get him to believe and so be reborn. Charles Wesley admits in his journal: "I still felt a violent opposition to believe. But yet the Spirit of God



strove with both my own spirit and the evil spirit, until by degrees He chased away the darkness of my unbelief. I found myself convinced—I knew not how nor when—and immediately fell to intercession" (49).

## John Bray's Influence Upon Wesley

Whenever Charles Wesley began to doubt his own faith, he sent for John Bray. Wesley tells us in his journal: "I sent for John Bray and asked him whether I believed. He answered that I ought not to doubt it. It was Christ who spoke to me. He knew it and wanted us to pray together." (49).

On May 23, 1738, he began to write a hymn about his conversion but he stopped "for fear of pride" (52). Wesley writes in his journal: "John Bray came and encouraged me to proceed in spite of Satan's onslaught. I asked Christ to stand by me and there finished the hymn" (52).

## Conclusion

Charles Wesley was constantly aware of his own weakness. He spoke of his "old accustomed deadness" (53), "notions of pride" (52), his "impatience through pain" (52), the "evil thoughts" that "darted" (51) into his mind, his "violent opposition to believe" (49), aware of his own "misery in being without Christ" (45), and his despair at feeling "sin to be absolutely unconquerable" (44). ❖



# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning



Like so many forms we take for granted in our life, this image of Jesus bearing the Cross is most probably derived from other sources. It is a highly romanticized vision,

for the carrying of the cross of a much greater size than this one was a tortuous punishment.

Some think the Cross was so heavy that only the horizontal was carried. Others insist the Cross was dragged through the street, propped upon the shoulder. (Modern zealots have sought to carry such crosses throughout the world in parades, ceremonies, and for the sake of traveling missionary activity).

## Artistic Style

In this romantic vision of the Cross-carrying Jesus, we see the gaze of the figure toward the sky and the heavens. The gaze is one almost of bliss or great contemplation. There is nothing which appears affected by the tortuous Cross.

The crown of thorns does not seem to carry thorns. The folds of the garment, the flowing hair, and flowing beard are all quite neatly in place.

## Symbolism

Is this an idealized vision of Christ bearing the Cross? Or is this sculpture which is on a grave in Buenos Aires,



*Source: Jesus Carrying His Cross. Sculpture. Recoleta Cemetery in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Artist anonymous.*

saying that it is not the earthly and its suffering and pain but the eternal and heavenly presence of God and Christ that is important?

## Conclusion

Since this is a grave site, let us think for a moment how we memorialize the

one who is buried there. It is by symbols of what the person has done in his or her life or is it that the life of the person buried here was the reflection of the Christ? ❖





# June

## 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 †	2 †
3	4 †	5 †	6 †	7 †	8 †	9 †
10	11 †	12 †	13 †	14 †	15 †	16 †
 17 †	18 †	19 †	20 †	21 †	22 †	23 †
24	25 †	26 †	27 †	28 †	29 †	30 †

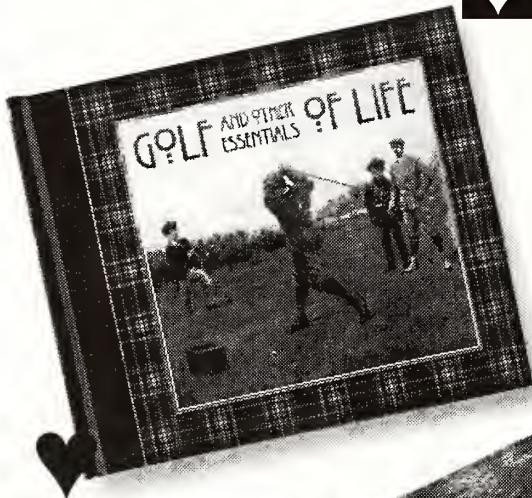
1-2—Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat  
4—Central Conference Layman's League  
4-9—Cragmont Woman's Conference

9—Kings Dominion, Original Free Will Baptist Family Day.  
11—Layman's League Executive and Promotional Board Meeting  
11-16—Cragmont Youth Conference

17—Father's Day  
18-21—Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere  
25-30—Youth Frontier Conference/  
YFA Week Cragmont Assembly



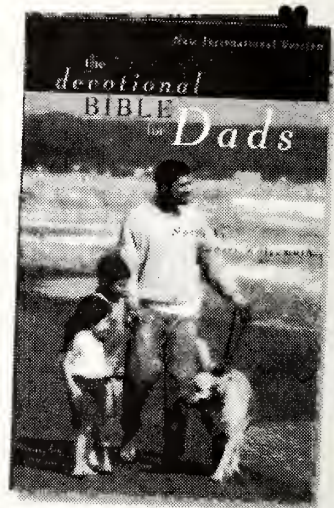
## FATHER'S DAY



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In God We Trust



## Let Us Take Heed

**T**he Word of God contains many warnings and admonitions. Some apply to those who know not Jesus Christ as Savior. Others, however, are written for those who are Christians. It is the latter that we wish to give thought to in this editorial.

In writing to the church at Galatia, the Apostle Paul was dealing with the matter of legalism—"strict literal adherence to the law or a particular code, as of religion or morality"—*The American Heritage College Dictionary*. There were those among the believers who sought to mingle works with grace and faith. Paul reminded them that salvation was a matter of faith, not of works—that the keeping of the Law was insufficient. It is in Chapters 5 and 6 that Paul presents his defense of Christian liberty, part of which is found in the following passage.

"For, Brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another" (5:13-15).

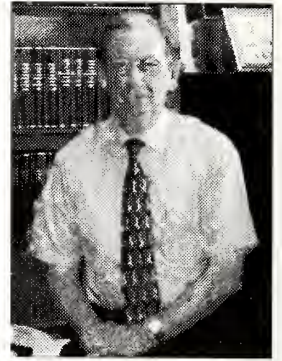
Isn't it strange that we spend so much of our energies in doing just what Paul warned against? Our problem is not that of legalism as opposed to faith and grace. We surely understand that it is by grace through faith that we are saved "...and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Paul's warning is clear—if we bite and devour one another, if among ourselves there is strife and division, disunity, an unwillingness to forgive, or hatred (a terrible condition), and envyings, we are likely to consume one another. It can and does happen in churches, and it can happen within denominations. What a shame it would be to waste our energies in "in fighting" when our chief enemy is without. As sure as day follows night, there will be conflicts and misunderstandings between God's people. It's how we deal with them that really matters.

There were disagreements in the Early Church movement. Paul and Barnabas disagreed about whether to take Mark with them on their second missionary journey, since he had left them during their first missionary journey. A sharp disagreement arose which resulted in their separation, with Barnabas choosing Mark and Paul choosing Silas as they, for a time, went their separate ways. Later, however, we find Mark once again with Paul in Rome. The disagreement

## Editor's thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



and separation did not totally estrange the two. They responded in a Christian manner, realizing that their ultimate goal and purpose in faithfully fulfilling their call to witness could only be accomplished in love and unity. Acts 15 also contains the record of the conflict concerning circumcision in which "...certain men...came down from Judaea..." and "...taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved" (v. 1). Paul, Barnabas, and others were sent to Jerusalem for a ruling on the matter. The issue was presented to the church in Jerusalem. James was serving as head of the church. His decision upheld the doctrine that nothing but Grace was required for salvation. The matter was settled in a Godly manner—as all controversies should be.

In the solving of any controversy, someone has to take the initiative. Someone has to do some "bending," and that is not to say that principles and basic beliefs are compromised. It may simply be a matter of saying, "I'm sorry," or "Let's start over." Then there's the matter of forgiveness, a requirement for receiving the forgiveness of God. The Model Prayer that Jesus prescribed states: "And forgive us our debts (sins), as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6:12). At the conclusion of the prayer, Jesus said: "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (vv. 14-15).

Again we note the fifth chapter of Galatians in which Paul lists the works of the flesh. We find that hatred, variance, emulations (the effort to surpass others), wrath, strife, and envyings are listed along with such evils as fornication, murders, drunkenness, and others. Thus, all is sinful. Then there are the opposing forces—the fruit of the Spirit: "...love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law...If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (vv. 22-23, 25).

May the divine Word live within us. May His Spirit guide us in the path of righteousness and forgiveness. ❖



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## NEXT MONTH



Convention Promotion Month

July is  
Mount Olive College  
Month





by Louis E. Latham

# What Is Americanism?

**I**t's Washington praying at Valley Forge,  
It's a tall, gaunt figure at Gettysburg.

It's a coonskin cap and a bowie knife,  
It's a muzzle loader, and a sleepless night.

It's blood and sweat and toil and tears,  
It's disease and death in their early years.

It's wagons west to a new frontier,  
It's a new land abornin', which their children share.

It's Atlantic and Pacific, The North and South-  
It's hard work aplenty, in growth or drouth.

It's San Juan Hill and Belleau Wood;  
It's mighty battles where our brave have stood.

It's a long gray line-a blue one too,  
Where the gallant have fought, and bled and died.

It's trees, it's rocks, it's mountain and hill;  
It's very name makes our glad hearts thrill.

It's blaring bugles, it's muffled drums;  
It's every place of our heroes' tombs.

It's The Star Spangled Banner, before the game;  
It's the Liberty Bell and our scripts of fame.

It's Ohio and Georgia and Texas and Maine;  
It's all the others, too numerous to name.

It's Jefferson and Jackson; it's Grant and Lee;

It's the O'Haras and Kelleys and Johnsons and Gees.

It's the home of the homeless-yes for you and me;  
It's the home of the brave and the land of the free.

It's "The Lone Eagle" flying the Atlantic alone,  
Opening new vistas between Europe and home,

It's raising our banner on yonder crest  
In mid-Pacific-our hearts were blest.

It's Bibles and Churches, integrity and truth;  
It's Sunday-schools and camps inspiring our youth.

It's Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, making them strong,  
Upholding the right and condemning the wrong.

It's Yankees and Dodgers, and Braves and Mets;  
It's popcorn and peanuts and hot dogs and Jets.

It's a way of life our Fathers have wrought;  
It's the hated way our enemies have fought.

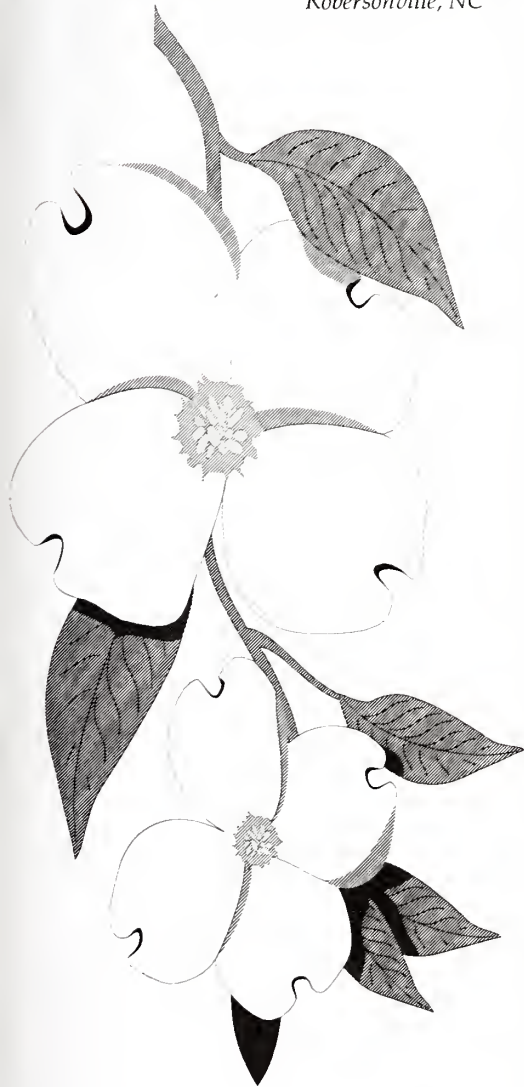
It's history to treasure, a future to hold;  
The faint-hearted will lose it, the brave will be bold.

"Under God" is the watchword, it's our great defense;  
The worthy will keep from every offense.



# Lessons from the Dogwood

by Gene B. Britt,  
Pastor, Rose of Sharon  
Original Free Will Baptist Church,  
Robersonville, NC



**I**f you are observant, this is the time of the year when you can see and enjoy a great deal from nature. In fact, you can learn some great lessons from God if you will just be still and seek His ways.

Back in the fall, the church removed all the long leaf pine and oak trees from the front and side of the parsonage to make way for a larger parking lot. This had left the front yard barren, except for one medium-size dogwood tree directly in front of the door. So this spring, our yard without the trees and grass looked like a dry barren desert.

I know how Moses must have felt as he led the Children of Israel through the wilderness. As I was planting spring flowers, I discovered a wild dogwood tree that had come up behind one of the azaleas next to the heating unit. I dug up the little tree and transplanted it in the middle of the hard, dry, and dusty yard. It's only about 4 feet high and dry weather and the hot sun has begun to take effect. It's all withered and the leaves are beginning to crack and turn under. In fact one of my church members stopped by and said, "Preacher, I think your tree has had it."

Later that afternoon on the way to the mailbox, I spotted a brown thrush sitting in the front yard. I noticed her because she was not moving at all. In fact, the only thing that let you know that she was even alive was the wiggling of a freshly caught earthworm in her beak. She stayed perfectly still until I was completely out of her sight. I waited a few seconds and then peeped around the corner of the house. I saw her fly into the azalea bush to her nest of hungry baby-birds. I went about my daily chores and forgot all about the busy mother and her nest full of little ones.

A couple of days later, sitting on the front porch reading a book, I saw the mother bird again. This time she had perched in the little dried up dogwood tree. It was serving a dual purpose; she

was guarding her nest and resting at the same time. This really caught my attention, because this is not just any dogwood tree, it is special. After all, I had put a lot of effort and sweat into digging up and transplanting this tree, and it was trying with all its might to hold this large mother thrush that was much too heavy for its branches. I held my breath. I just knew any moment the dry weak limb would break, and my little tree would be gone. But the limb held her up until she was sure her babies were safe, and after a few moments of rest, she flew away to retrieve them some lunch.

Will the little tree survive the hot dry summer? Will its branches hold other birds? Will it grow to become a shade tree? I don't know, but if it doesn't, it has served its purpose. For a while it provided a haven of rest for a weary mother bird.

When you think about life you realize that God has provided many stopping places for us to rest, find peace, comfort, and protection. Some things last only a season, some endure a lifetime, but all are useful.

It is amazing how many of us are like that dogwood tree. We sometimes feel small and we think we have nothing to offer, and that we can't make it through another day, but God has a job for each of us to fulfill. We may be a shoulder to cry on, an ear to listen with, an arm to lean upon, or a strong back to carry someone's burden. Sometimes we don't even know that we have been useful at all. But the ways of God are so mysterious.

So the next time you feel discouraged or useless, stand tall, hold firm to your faith. God needs you no matter who you are. Also remember, just as the tree bore the weight of the bird, God has promised us that when we trust in Him, He will give us the strength and endurance we need not only for ourselves but for each other. ❖



## James A. Evans Lecture to Be Held

**T**he seventh annual James A. Evans Lecture will be held at Mount Olive College on July 30, 2001, in Rodgers Chapel. Dr. Don Gordon, the Rev. Gary Bailey, and Dr. Joseph Ingram will be guest lecturers. This year's theme is "Preaching to Needs of People." Registration will begin at 9:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. A \$10 registration fee is required, which includes a buffet luncheon.

Dr. Gordon will be the lecturer for the first session titled "Pastoral Preaching." He is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Mount Olive.

Rev. Bailey will be the lecturer for the second session titled "Preparation and Leadership for Pastoral Ministry." He is the pastor of Stoney Creek Church, Goldsboro.

Rev. Ingram will be the lecturer for the third session titled "Needs and Issues of the Bi-Vocational Minister." He is pastor of Barnes Hill Church in Nashville, NC.

The James A. Evans Lecture is sponsored by Dr. Thomas R. Morris of Wilmington. Through sponsoring this program, Dr. Morris is seeking to foster the pastoral qualities he observed in Mr. Evans when Evans served his home church, Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, in the Nahunta community of Wayne County. Each year the Evans Lecture brings a significant speaker(s) to address issues related to pastoral ministry.

The program for the day also features the P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award, sponsored by Dr. Morris in memory of his great-grandfather. This award will be presented during the noon luncheon.

For additional information, contact Dr. K. David Hines, at 919-658-2502. ❖



*Left to right: Ellen Wetherington, Andrea, Kaleb, and Neal Cox.*

## Neal Cox Receives Award for Academic Excellence at Mount Olive

**N**eal Cox of Cove City received the distinguished Dr. Thomas R. Morris Award for Academic Excellence at Mount Olive College's forty eighth commencement on Saturday, May 12.

The award is given to the baccalaureate graduate who best exemplifies serious academic pursuit and love and breadth of learning. The award requires a minimum 3.7 cumulative grade point average and exhibited leadership in extracurricular activities. The recipient must have been a full-time student and is selected by a committee of faculty members and Student Government Association representatives.

Neal graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of arts degree in religion. Besides attending the College full-time, he also serves as pastor of the Wintergreen Original Free Will Baptist Church near Cove City, is on the Board of Di-

rectors for Cragmont, and is on the denomination's Credentials Committee.

At the College, he has been a member of the Student Fellowship Original Free Will Baptist and was recently inducted into Alpha Chi, a national interdisciplinary honorary recognizing academic achievement.

In the essay competition for the Morris Award, he related his transformation and growth from truck driver to pastor and full-time student, relating his process of personal growth to his own love of learning. Following graduation, Neal hopes to attend Duke Divinity School. He and his wife, Andrea, have one son, two-year old Kaleb.

Benefactor of the Morris Award is retired Goldsboro Optometrist, Dr. Thomas R. Morris. A native of Nahunta in Wayne County, Dr. Morris was raised in the Union Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church. A graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, he now resides in Wilmington. ❖

### Summer Camps at Mount Olive College

• Soccer Day Camp	Coach Philmore George	July 8-12
• Volleyball Day Camp	Coach Sharon Gregory	July 9-13
• Softball Day Camp	Coach Sharon Gregory	July 16-20
• Diamond Star Baseball Camp		
• (Session 1)	Coach Carl Lancaster	July 22-24
• (Session 2)	Coach Carl Lancaster	July 25-27

• For more information on each of these camps, contact Tina Parks at 919-658-2502, ext. 3043. •



There Is Still Time to Enroll

Mount Olive College continues to enroll new freshmen and new transfer students. Scholarships and financial aid are available. New student applications are being accepted now! Call 1-800-653-0854 or e-mail Vicky Stroud at [vstroud@moc.edu](mailto:vstroud@moc.edu) for an application and more information.

A Freshman Advising Day will be held on Friday, July 13, for all incoming freshmen and their parents. Students will meet with faculty advisers and pre-register for Fall 2001 classes and will have the opportunity to learn about academic policies, student services, as well as meet future classmates and tour the campus. Parents will have the opportunity to speak with parents of current college students as well as faculty and staff members.

Freshman Orientation, which will begin on Sunday, August 19, is a two-day session for first-time students. Activities include introduction to college life and moving into residence halls. Registration verification will follow on Tuesday, August 21. Classes begin Wednesday, August 22.

New Transfer Orientation is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21, beginning at 8:30 AM at which time transfer students will move into residence halls and complete registration verification. For more information, contact Tim Woodard, Director of Admissions, at 1800-653-0854 or [twoard@moc.edu](mailto:twoard@moc.edu).

Continuing Students will move into residence halls on Tuesday, August 21, beginning at 8:30 AM. Classes will begin on Wednesday, August 22.

Mount Olive College offers Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Applied Science Degrees, as well as Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degrees in a variety of majors. The College has a School of Business and six academic departments, including Fine Arts, Language and Literature, Religion, Recreation and Leisure Studies, Science and Mathematics, and Social Sciences. For more information about enrollment or financial assistance call (919) 658-2502. ❖

2001 Accelerated Program Calendar

Management and Organizational Development (MOD)  
Criminal Justice for Professionals (CJP)  
Church Ministries (CM)

Mount Olive College Evening College at Mount Olive

Start Dates	Program Offered	Cohort Number
August 16	MOD	MOD26
September 6	CJP	CJP14
October 1	CM	CM4
November 11	MOD	MOD27

Mount Olive College at New Bern

Start Dates	Program Offered	Cohort Number
August 20	MOD	MOD52
September 19	CJP	CJP11
October 4	MOD	MOD53
November 7	MOD	MOD54

Mount Olive College at Research Triangle Park

Start Dates	Program Offered	Cohort Number
June 27	MOD	MOD24
August 20	MOD	MOD25
September 17	CJP	CJP10
September 27	MOD	MOD26
November 27	MOD	MOD27

Mount Olive College at Wilmington

Start Dates	Program Offered	Cohort Number
June 12	MOD	MOD42
June 21	CJP	CJP7

For more information, call  
1-800-653-0854 (Mount Olive), 1-800-868-8479 (New Bern),  
1-888-258-5188 (Research Triangle Park),  
1-800-300-7478 (Wilmington)

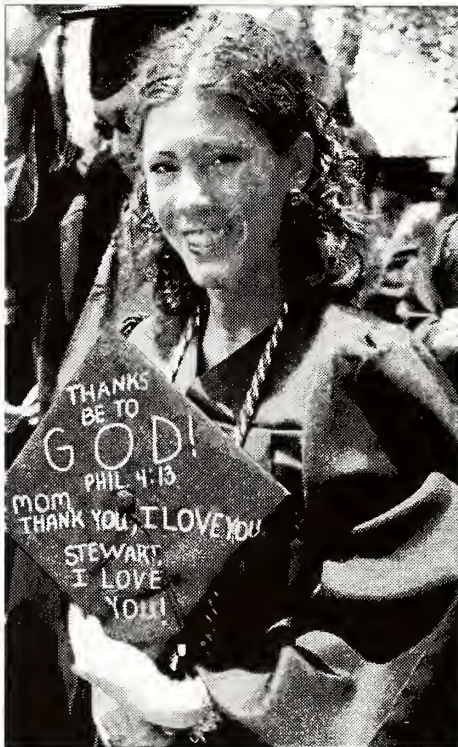


## Student Expresses Thanks to God

Many Mount Olive College students recognize the contributions that their family and friends have made to help them throughout their college endeavors.

In this picture, Kristie Dail used her graduation cap to not only send her love out to her mom and boyfriend but also as a way to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God. "I chose Mount Olive because I not only wanted to attend a small college where I could receive a quality education and excellent experience while still remaining close to home, but also because of the Christian values."

Kristie graduated with a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice. She is the daughter of Brenda Dail of Pikeville. ❖



## Alumni Return to College For Visit



Pictured above is Irene Patten, professor of music and director of the Mount Olive College Singers, with former students Stephen and Lynn Prescott.

Stephen spoke at the College's Commencement Worship Service and afterwards, he and Lynn found time to speak with some of their former professors.

Stephen, a former member of the Mount Olive College Singers, received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the College in 1992. After accepting the call into the ministry in September 1993, he returned to the College and received a bachelor of science degree in church ministries in 1995.

Lynn received a bachelor of fine arts degree in music from the College in 1995. ❖



## Commencement Worship Service

Pictured above are platform members for the Commencement Worship Service with Dr. W. Burkette Raper and Dr. J. William Byrd. (left to right): Dr. Raper; Carie Mills, senior class president; the Rev. Stephen

Prescott, alumnus of the College and pastor of Marlboro Original Free Will Baptist Church near Farmville; the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister; Dr. Opey Jeanes, director of special services; and Dr. Byrd. ❖



## Pastor of Marlboro Church Speaks at Commencement Worship Service

**T**he Rev. Stephen Prescott, an alumnus of Mount Olive College, gave the commencement sermon for Mount Olive College's worship service prior to the College's forty-eighth Commencement Service.

Prescott received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the College in 1992. After accepting the call into the ministry in September 1993, he returned to the College and received a bachelor of science degree in church ministries in 1995. He has been pastor of Marlboro Church near Farmville since 1997. Prescott also serves as clerk and executive committee member of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists and also serves on the Credentials Committee for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Prescott is an active participant in the Farmville Ministerial Association and the Pitt Original Free Will Baptist Minister's Association. He is the son of Carol and the late Matthew Prescott and the grandson of Elbert and Rhoda Prescott. He is married to Lynn Lawhorn Prescott and plans to attend Duke University in the fall to pursue his master's and doctoral degrees.

## Nominations for Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award

**I**n recognition of the outstanding service rendered by many Free Will Baptist pastors, Dr. Thomas R. Morris of Wilmington, North Carolina, has established the Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award through Mount Olive College.

The purpose of this award is to recognize a Free Will Baptist pastor for extraordinary leadership and service to his church, community, and denomination. Emphasis is to be upon pastoral services and may include bi-vocational pastors who serve small churches.

The award is to be used by the recipient to strengthen and enrich his pastoral ministry. The recipient is to provide a written report within one year of being recognized of how the funds benefited his pastoral ministry.

Originally from the Union Grove

Basing his sermon on Philippians 4:13, Prescott told the graduates that Christ can help them in making choices in their lives.

"We all have the ability to make choices in our lives. But those choices come with great responsibility," Prescott said. "Wisdom is the key to making sure that those choices are helpful instead of harmful. The key to wisdom itself is Christ. You need Christ to guide you in making the choices that are best for your life."

Also on the platform for the worship service were the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister; Dr. Opey Jeanes, director of special services; and Carie Mills, senior class president.

The College gave a record number of 541 degrees for the 2000-2001 academic year. There were 241 candidates eligible for the May commencement program. The College graduated 300 in December. The candidates presenting themselves for degrees have completed their programs of study through the geographically distributed campus of Mount Olive College in Mount Olive, Goldsboro, New Bern, Wilmington and the Research Triangle Park. ❖

Church near Nahunta, Dr. Morris is providing a \$1,000 award as a memorial to the late Elder P. T. Lucas, Dr. Morris' great-grandfather. Elder Lucas, a Free Will Baptist minister early in the last century, is remembered for his pastoral services. In sponsoring this award, Dr. Morris is seeking to strengthen and support the pastoral ministry.

The recipient will be selected from those nominated by their churches according to the following criteria:

1. Pastoral Leadership and Service. This category, which will receive the greatest weighing in the evaluation, includes effectiveness as a faithful pastor, as a preacher and teacher of God's Word, and as a leader for church growth and development;

2. Denominational Service, including

*continued on page 10*

## Position Available

**M**ount Olive College has an opening for Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

### Principle responsibilities include:

- Leadership, direction, and vision for the College's comprehensive advancement efforts.
- Executive leadership to the areas of Church Support, Alumni Affairs, Corporate Relations, Gift Support, Public Affairs, and Development Research.
- Responsible for resource development and work with the College leadership team in identifying funding needs.
- Responsible for marketing, community outreach, public relations and communication, publications, government relations, alumni relations, and a coordinated grants program.
- Provide leadership for annual and major gifts campaigns and fundraising events; develop proposals for public and private grants as well as corporate contributions.

### Qualifications include:

- Experience in development or related field.
- Knowledge of capital campaigns, sponsored programs, major gifts and corporate/foundation fundraising.
- Knowledge of prospect management and fundraising strategies.
- Ability to work with a diverse group of people.
- Organizational skills to handle multiple projects simultaneously and accurately.
- Ability to communicate professionally and effectively.
- Demonstrate strong leadership, management and interpersonal skills.

Any person interested in more information about this position and working in a ministry of the Free Will Baptist Church through Christian higher education should contact the Office of the President, Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365. ❖



service to our convention, the conference, and to our denominational ministries; and

3. Community Service, including services such as participation in local community ministries and service as a volunteer chaplain.

If you feel that your pastor has excelled in these areas, your church is encouraged to nominate him for this award by completing a nomination form and attaching a letter of recommendation. Both the information sheet and the letter must be signed by the clerk of your church and the deacon chairman. To be considered

for the 2001 award, nominations must be received by July 23. The recipient will be announced at a luncheon during the Pastor's Conference on July 30 at Mount Olive College.

The selection committee for this award will include representatives from the North Carolina Ministerial Association and Mount Olive College. Please address all nominations or questions to: The Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award Selection Committee, Mount Olive College, or call Dr. David Hines at the College (919-658-2502). Nomination forms may be obtained by calling Dr. Hines. ❖

## NEW DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ARTICLES

Beginning with the September 2001 issue of *The Free Will Baptist*, news and articles submitted for publication must be received on or before the **fifth** of each month preceding the date of publication. **(Articles for the September issue must be received by August 5.)**

Although the new deadline is the fifth of each month preceding the month of publication, instead of the tenth, materials sent to us preceding the deadline would be most helpful in speeding up the process.

This new deadline is due to the change in our mailing date for *The Free Will Baptist*. Beginning with the September 2001 issue, the mailing will take place on Thursday before the last Sunday of each month, instead of Thursday after the last Sunday of each month.

Some individuals and churches have not been receiving *The Free Will Baptist* until well into the month after some events have already taken place. We believe this will help to solve that problem. Please continue to send us your news and articles. Let our people know what you are doing in your church or church group.—*The Editor*

## Churches & Ministers Available

**NOTE :** *This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)*

**New Bethlehem Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Grantsboro, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. This church is committed to having three services per week, has a solid nucleus of young people and young couples, mixed with faithful senior citizens. Contact may be made to Frank Owen, 252-745-5449.

**Mr. Alan Price**—a member of Powhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church, has been approved as a lay speaker by the Board of Ordination of the Cape Fear Conference. He may be contacted by phone at 919-553-1308, or 4203 Little Creek Church Road, Clayton, NC 27520.

**Unity Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Wilson, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested, please send to, or call, the following: Charles Rogers, PO Box 241, Kenly, NC 27542, or Wayne Lamm, 2515 McNair Street, Wilson, NC 27893, phone 252-237-2452.

### Special Notice

For the first time since November of 1995, there will be an increase in the subscription rate for *The Free Will Baptist*, as follows:

Yearly rate: \$12.72 (tax included)  
 Bundle Plan: \$6.36 (tax included)  
 (minimum of 25 copies per bundle)  
 Every Family Plan: \$9.54 (tax included)

These rates will become effective in September 2001. The increase is necessary due to the rising cost of production.

We wish to thank all our subscribers for your continued support. We will continue to serve our denomination through the pages of *The Free Will Baptist*. ❖



# August Is Heritage Month...

## for Original Free Will Baptists

### Purpose

To effectively know where we are going, we must understand from whence we have come.

To provide the opportunity for our people to reflect upon the importance of continuing ministry.

To show the connection between the congregation and the Convention.

To remind us all of our privilege and obligation to support the Church that we may continue our heritage.

To rekindle/revitalize our commitment of this ministry to the Church.

To participate financially in the maintenance of this ministry.

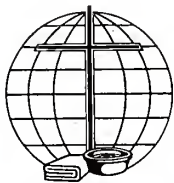
### Calendar of Events

Congregation Sunday—August 5

Covenant Sunday—August 12

Mission/Ministry Sunday—August 19

Heritage Sunday—August 26



Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
3926 Lee Street • PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513  
(252) 746-4963 • FAX (252) 746-7993  
E-Mail ofwbconvhq@coastalnet.com





## Convention Nomination Procedures

An announcement of vacancies to be filled at the 2001 Convention is being made to the boards and committees of the Convention, churches, ministers, and in *The Free Will Baptist*, inviting recommendations. Recommendations must include the name, church occupation, and a short paragraph describing qualifications and/or gifts the person would bring to the board, committee, or

office, and the name of the person or group making the recommendation. Recommendations will be received through July 31, 2001. The Nominating Committee will make its decisions, contact persons to be nominated, and prepare a written report for inclusion in the Convention Report Book. In the event the Nominating Committee decides to nominate someone not recommended

by a board or director, the director will be consulted and the decision will be discussed.

### Resolution Committee

Please send any proposed Resolutions to: Resolution Committee, Convention Headquarters, PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.

## Vacancies To Be Filled At The 2001 Convention

### Offices:

Treasurer (2003)  
Secretary (2003)

### Executive Committee:

Albemarle Representative (2003)  
Pee Dee Representative (2003)  
Piedmont Representative (2003)  
Western Representative (2003)

### Children's Home Board:

3 vacancies with terms ending in the year 2005

### Church Finance Association Representative:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2002

### Cragmont Assembly Stock Representative:

2 vacancies with terms ending in the year 2004

### Foreign Missions:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2005

### Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Representative:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2002

### Home Missions:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2008

### Ministers Program:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2005

### Mount Olive College:

5 vacancies with terms ending in the year 2007

### Retirement Ministries:

2 vacancies with terms ending in the year 2006

### Convention Board of Trustees:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2004

### Chaplains Commission:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2006

### Commission of OFWB College Student Fellowships:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2004

### Historical Commission:

1 vacancy with term ending in the year 2004

### Layman's League Board:

4 vacancies with terms ending in the year 2004

### Sunday School Board:

3 vacancies with terms ending in the year 2004

## Recommendation Form

I (we) would like to recommend

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

for consideration by the Nominating Committee to fill the Vacancy:

Qualifications and/or gifts this person would bring to the position:

Mail form to:

Please provide the following information of the nominee:

Church Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person or group making the recommendation \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating Committee  
PO Box 39  
Ayden, NC 28513

(Forms should be postmarked no later than July 31, 2001.)



## Residents Visit Farm

On May 5, the *Cowboys For Christ* invited our residents to enjoy a day at the farm, complete with horse rides, wagon rides along the Tar River, petting animals, singing, stories, and laughter. The day ended with an enjoyable meal and sad good-byes. Thank you special friends for caring and welcoming us with your smiles. ❖

*Left: Residents visit farm with Cowboys For Christ.*



*Above: Residents enjoy "Pig Pickin" with Hugo Free Will Baptist Church.*

## Fellowship and Fun With Hugo

On April 29, members of Hugo Church, Grifton NC, provided our residents and staff with a campus "pig-pickin" and games.

The weather was beautiful and our

friends were delightful. A "thank you" to each member of Hugo for being a part of our family. Also a special thank you to Mrs. Elsie McCoy for always caring and sharing. ❖

Mark your  
calendars



55th Annual  
Alumni  
Homecoming  
July 8, 2001



## Youth Prove They Care

**H**ave you heard the old saying "Small bodies with big hearts?" On May 19, the youth group of Pleasant Hill Church, Grimesland NC, proved this old saying very true. They started early, involving members and friends, in the Change For Children Campaign.

*Below: Youth Group of Pleasant Hill Church, Grimesland, NC..*



*Above: Left to right: Christy Taylor, Craig Taylor, and Jamie Lamm, Wildwood Church, Wilson, NC.*

Thanks to their dedication, they collected, rolled, and delivered \$200.00. Along with the "change", each member of Pleasant Hill contributed donations to help meet the needs of our campus. I can now see why the Rev. Grady Tucker smiles. Proud? Yes he is! ❖

## Wildwood Delivers Supplies

**W**ildwood Church, Wilson NC, delivered much needed supplies to our campus on May 5. To every member of Wildwood, we say thank you for giving from your heart and for always caring. Above (L to R) Christy Taylor, Craig Taylor, and Jamie Lamm. ❖

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Desk Lamps
- ☐ Large Electric Griddles
- ☐ Large Electric Fry Pans
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games  
(Jeopardy, Winnie The Pooh, Ms. Pac Man)
- ☐ 5 Wooden Glider Swings
- ☐ Mechanical Pencils
- ☐ Board Games (Bible Bingo, Girl Talk, Operation, Battleship)
- ☐ Centerpieces for Cottage Kitchen Tables
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Pole Lamps
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD Rom Encyclopedia
- ☐ Gym Bags
- ☐ Standard Size Pillows

*Remember To  
Mark Your Calendars:*

***Friends of Children Day  
Saturday, November 10, 2001***

**Whitley Center**



## Dream or Possibility?

by Tezdzjan N. Murtazova

From a post-Communist Nation, Bulgaria is developing into a democracy, which searches for participation in the European Union. Our President and Government are working hard to achieve the requirements of membership in the E.U. Many laws are changing according to E.U. standards. There is a new bill from the Secretary of religious affairs. Until now the parliament has postponed the debates and it will be probably after the elections that this proposal will be brought into the new parliament. After this proposal has been accepted, it will be much easier to be registered as a Free Will Baptist denomination.

After 1992, we worked mainly among the Roma Gypsies. At that time, they hardly knew about God the Father and even less about Jesus Christ. To many of them Jesus was a kind of Christian demon. They were not an easy soil to work with. It took us quite a while to teach them the Love of God and His care and concern for them. They waited for the proof of the divine Love through His servants. At the beginning of our ministry we were not accepted by the parents of the children we worked with, because they did not trust us. As the years went by many of the parents saw a kind of positive development in their children. Their attitude towards drugs, gambling, etc., changed and so did their behavior to one another.

Nowadays the mothers and sometimes both parents come to ask us if we are willing to prepare their children for the elementary school and if their children are allowed to come to our Sunday Bible Club. Through the years, we have experienced a change in attitude towards our ministry. From negative and hostile, it changed into a positive behavior of support and of appreciation. We know that we are blessed in our work. Some of our youth married and stopped to attend our devotions and Bible Study lessons. However, some of them like to come back with their spouses and children.

The law made it impossible for us to

register as Free Will Baptists, but after the new law is signed there will be no barrier anymore as far as we can estimate the present situation. Our Attorney is full of good positive expectations.

An enormous obstacle for our growth is the space of our meeting place in Balchik. We meet in a room with a surface of about 100 square feet. On Sundays we have three meetings in the morning and we usually reach more



Tezdzjan N. Murtazova

than 60 persons. We have one meeting in the evening in my room at home, which is a little larger and there we meet every Sunday evening with 25 or more people. We have space for twenty chairs in my room and if more than twenty people want to attend to hear the Word of God, they have to sit on the floor, which is not bad in the summer, but very risky in the winter. We first had the seating problem, during the celebrations of Christmas and Easter, but now it is our daily and weekly problem on Sundays, when there is not enough space or time for the youth and young adults.

The Lord gave us some fine persons, which we teach to take over parts of our ministry. What more can we do at this moment of explosive interest? Even par-

ents have expressed their interest to attend prayer meetings and Bible Study meetings and worship meetings. We truly need room to receive them. Gypsies love to meet in groups. "The more souls, the more joy" is their saying.

Willem often comes to greet the children and the youth and almost every time when he steps out of the room he says: "We need more space." He means that with all his heart and so do I. In number we certainly form a church and we need space to worship together, because family and group life is very important to our people. On the other side, we realize that Jesus had no place to lay his head and we are asking the Lord for so much more than that.

We believe the Lord shall provide in all our needs in His way and on His time. Sometimes we are cold and sometimes we need food, but none of us perished by any lack. We pray God to protect us from planning anything that is not for His Glory. By all means we desire to serve Him as He has called us to do. Let us pray that the Wonderful Counselor will lead us to respond on the real needs here at home and abroad. Whatever our needs are and whatever plans we make for the future, let us remain in the assurance that God never leaves us and that He provided a Wonderful Savior—the Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus Christ. He died for all of us and through Him we have already received everlasting life if we remain in Him. I dream of a bright future for our young congregations.

We have learned to believe with all our heart and mind in Jesus Christ as the Lord of our lives, because you, dear brothers and sisters, wanted us to know this unshakable truth. You are in our prayers and we thank the Lord for your missions support all over the world. The Lord our God bless you and keep you healthy.

Receive our best wishes from all the believers here, Tezdzjan. ❖



## Reflections

by Chris Singleton

What could a 60's rock and roll hit and a 70's TV show possibly have to do with a mission trip to the Philippines? On the last night of our eight days of wonderful experiences in Cebu, our guide took us up a winding mountain road, somewhat to our annoyance. This had been his evening—first he picked the restaurant and then we were twisting and turning up a narrow road. Once on top we were at a place right out of the TV hit series *Happy Days*, Lookout Mountain.

We could see the entire city beneath us! Cebu is a city of over two million people and is nestled between the coast and a mountain range and we could see lights everywhere from the mountains to the shore. In the darkness with thousands of twinkling lights, the city looked like a beautiful jeweled tapestry. As we took in the beauty, we reminded ourselves how deceptive our view really was because of all of the suffering and misery that we had encountered down on the streets below.

On my ride into Cebu from the airport over a week earlier, I had been struck by how huge the city was and how crowded and poor it was. Everywhere one turned there were people and signs of poverty. The sights and experiences that we were about to encounter would verify the accuracy of these first impressions.

Our group of eight "short-termers" stayed on the second floor of the Y.M.C.A. in Cebu. Each morning I enjoyed watching the day unfold from our walkway balcony. There were kids coming to the "Y" for all kinds of classes. It didn't take one long to figure out that these were middle-class kids dressed in Nike outfits, toting sports bags and equipment, and often being dropped off

in family vehicles. This American-like scene was sharply contrasted by the kids of the food vendors that were selling their wares on the edge of the parking lot. Those children were dressed in tattered clothes and playing with improvised toys or playing games that required no toys. Oddly, but we heard more laughter and joy



from them than the kids going to the "Y".

Since none of us were up to the idea of breakfast with the vendors, we headed down the street to McDonalds. Each time we walked that beat we saw two guys that looked as if they had never had a bath. They slept on the street or would be sitting somewhere nearby. They never had on anything but a filthy pair of shorts and they never begged. We would also see an elderly lady everyday that had not had too many encounters with bathwater. No matter what time of the day we made the trip down the street, we would always encounter numerous children begging for a handout. They could always get to us by making a gesture of putting food in their mouths and saying, "No money."

One woman had a table set up and was selling newspapers. The three or four young boys that were playing around her were always delighted to see the "Americanos" approaching.

There were also many kids selling flowers, fruits, and vegetables. In the evening, there would be many kids selling necklaces made of styrofoam beads with fragrant flowers. As this has some religious significance in Catholicism, they would always say, "In the name of Christ." It was so hard to turn them down, but there was no way that anyone could buy from so many kids. We usually would buy from one or two or give a few of them something and with heavy hearts walk by the others.

Harold Jones and I got up early several mornings to jog and walk (he jogged—I walked). One morning there were three of the street kids sleeping in the park. One was on a bench, one had flattened a cardboard box for a mattress, and the third was asleep on the

cement. My heart broke as I tried to imagine what it must be like to spend all day on the streets and then to be so tired as to be able to sleep in such a manner.

The community around our main church in Cebu had a look of extreme poverty everywhere one turned. The kids played in a large open lot that contained several large mud holes. Anytime we looked up we could see several small homemade kites in the air. The neighborhood kids found great pleasure with such cheap fun.

We all made several attempts to get some of them to come into the church compound and join in on our activities. Most of them tried to act shy and kept a safe distance while teasing us with their pretty smiles.

On one occasion, I coaxed several of the girls to let me take their picture. We talked and laughed together for a few moments, and when we started to leave, one of them gave me a small foil flower that she had made. Such a small gift, from



one that had so little, touched me deeply.

I had to miss out on the lessons with the street children, but I did get to help with a couple of the Bible schools. One was in a coastal community in a building right beside the market place right on the shore. It was a beautiful setting and we had about eighty kids eager to learn about Jesus and to sing songs of praise.

While the kids were happy and all smiles, one could tell that many of them were very poor. We went down near the shore and did bubbles, much to their delight. A large group of kids followed us to the van and stood waving as we drove off.

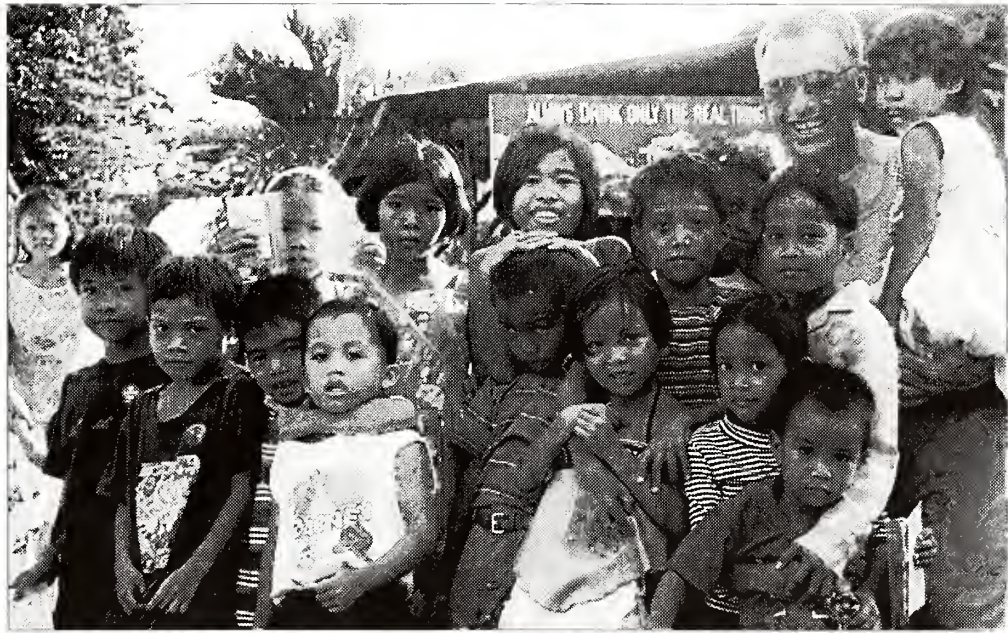
There was a pedestrian overpass at one of the busiest intersections. At first thought, it seemed to be a welcome relief from having to dodge the busy traffic. After the first time we used it, we were not so sure. The stairwells were headquarters for a large number of beggars of every description. It was almost like trying to run a gauntlet to get from one end to the other.

On our last trip over, there was an elderly person sitting on the walkway propped on the wall with several young teen-age girls leaning on her as if they were settling down for the night. When they saw us they hopped up and made a dash for me. They nearly attacked me, in fact, one of them did try to pry my hand open! Another one put her arm around me and said, "He is my father."

I made sure that each of them got a few pesos and made a quick dash to catch up with the rest of the group. Later, I could not help but think how easy it must be for such kids to go from begging to prostitution and crime. (I have since read that it is estimated that there are 1.5 million street children working as pickpockets, beggars, drug traffickers, and prostitutes in the Philippines.)

How quickly the week passed! Here we were on our final night looking down on this vast darkness full of twinkling lights. As all of these scenes from the week flashed before me, I could not help but think that these are not very *happy days* for many of the kids whose misery was now blotted out by the darkness.

As I was pondering all of this, the words of a Johnny Rivers' hit song came to my mind; "Way up on a mountain, looking down on the city, the way I feel is a doggone pity."



The pity is that we are often blinded to the suffering and misery of those around us. We make our way through our lives everyday and fail to see the poverty around us. We have conditioned ourselves to make our way through the crowds without being bothered by the awful sights around us. As Christians, we even fail to see the spiritual poverty of friends and family, let alone those down the street or in distant lands.

The beauty from our vantage point did not erase our awareness of what life was really like for most of the people in that city we were looking upon. One by one all commented on how the beautiful view



was hiding the reality we had been made painfully aware of.

May each of us see through the darkness that keeps us from the realization that there is a hurting world around us that needs to know of the love of Christ. ❖



## National Organization On Disability Recognizes Covenant Church

**T**he National Organization on Disability (N.O.D.)'s Religion and Disability Program recently achieved its ambitious, millennium-inspired goal when the 2,000th congregation signed a commitment to include people with disabilities in the life of their congregation. While the 2,000 congregations, representing many faiths, are scattered across America, one is located in Hope Mills, Covenant Original Free Will Baptist Mission Church.

The N.O.D. program encourages congregations of all faiths to remove architectural barriers (including stairs and narrow doors) that limit access for individuals with physical disabilities. It also addresses attitudinal barriers that can make people with physical, sensory, psychiatric/or mental disabilities of any kind feel unwelcome.

The 2,000 congregations that enrolled in the Accessible Congregation Campaign (ACC) made a commitment to include people with disabilities into a full life of faith, including worship, study, service and leadership. They recognize



*Above: Worship service with special music and hymn being signed by Marin Bandel.*

people with disabilities have gifts and talents to share with their congregations.

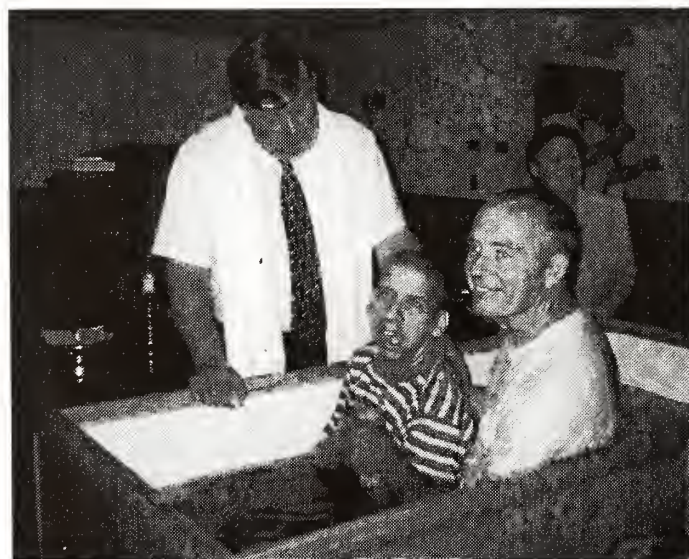
The Covenant Original Free Will Baptist Mission Church congregation has made the church wheelchair accessible, the front and rear entrance doors have been made accessible. Also you can load and unload in the front entrance to the church. Things we have planned to do in the future is that we are going to install a walkway from the front of the church to tie into the Fellowship Hall entrance.

"It has been an amazing experience to have so many congregations across the country to commit to welcoming people with all types of disabilities," said Ginny Thornburgh, the Director of N.O.D.'s Religion and Disability Program. Cov-

enant Original Free Will Baptist Church was a major link in the effort to enroll 2,000 committed congregations at the beginning of this new millennium."

Thornburgh, the wife of former Pennsylvania Governor and U. S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, said that the campaign will continue even though the initial goal of 2,000 committed congregations has been reached. "We hope eventually that all houses of worship will open their hearts, minds, and doors to children and adults with disabilities."

Additional information about the ACC and the commitment form are available at the National Organization on Disability's website, [www.nod.org](http://www.nod.org), or by calling 202/293-5960. ❖



*Left: Mission Pastor James Corbett officiating at baptism service for James Powell as Mr. Jimmy Powell assists and Mrs. Jimmy Powell observes. Right: Church sign displays "Services Signed" message, reflecting their commitment to the Religion and Disability Program of the N.O.D.*



# God Is Blessing Covenant Free Will Baptist Mission

by James Corbett, Director/Pastor

I am just amazed to see how God is working at Covenant Free Will Baptist Mission. When I went to Covenant to be the Director/Pastor, I evaluated the work, looking at what was going on and what we wanted to see happen to promote and build the church and move it toward church status.

They had made some changes in the appearance of the church, so I made plans to finish the remodeling process, and build the ministries of the church so we would have something to offer new people coming to visit our church. We took our plans to our Lord and asked Him to bless our efforts.

It seems God has gone before us in every project we start. We were blessed through Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church at Erwin to be able to change our pews in the sanctuary. We also needed some chairs to add to the pews to give extra length to the rows, so we started a chair project, not knowing how we would get the chairs.

We went to our Union Meeting in the Cape Fear Conference April 28, 2001, and I asked the Moderator to allow me to speak to the union for a few minutes. I wanted to thank them for their prayers and support of the work at Covenant, especially the Rev. Sam Weeks, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church at Smithfield, and the congregation from the First Church, for their monthly gift for the support of the ministry at Covenant. I also wanted to let the Union know about our need for chairs, and how they could help.

To our amazement, we saw God move again. The Union voted to give five hundred dollars to purchase ten chairs, and the churches of our Union, and many of the members of these churches, pledged to purchase the remaining chairs. We left the Union with our chair needs taken care of.

It amazes me to see how God uses different people to accomplish His will. It



was no different at the Union, for He used the Rev. Frank Harrison to accomplish this miracle by urging the people to respond to our need at Covenant.

The Sunday after the Union Meeting, we had a baptism service at Covenant (a special thank you to Hillsberry Free Will Baptist Church for the use of their

portable baptistry), and I reported what had happened at the union to the church. They, like me, can hardly believe, but are rejoicing and praising God also.

My spirit has been in the clouds since the Union Meeting. I've been rejoicing, praising God, and singing thank you Lord. ❖



## Volunteers Needed for Mobile Ministry

Home Missions and Evangelism will be erecting its tent on Saturday, August 4, 2001, at 9:00 AM at Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, North Carolina, for the camp's annual Singing By the River. Home Missions is currently in need of volunteers to assist with coordinating the raising and striking of the tent, therefore, the Rev. Joe Crumpler, our current tent coordinator, will be giving instructions on the process of erecting the tent. Anyone interested in being

involved in Mobile Ministry of Home Missions and Evangelism, please join us at Camp Vandemere on Saturday, August 4, 2001. Lunch will be provided.

For more information on the tent or mobile ministry, contact Home Missions and Evangelism at (252) 746-4963. For directions to Camp Vandemere, please contact the Rev. Mike Williams, Camp Manager, at (252) 745-3171.

In the event of rain, the tent will be erected on Saturday, August 11, 2001. ❖



# Fall Gospel Festival With Colors

**C**ragmont will host its first "Fall Gospel Festival With Colors" on October 21 - 24, 2001.

Fall is a ball at Dollywood. The beautiful colors of Fall in the Great Smoky Mountains set the stage for this spectacular outdoor production that combines music, crafts, fall food, and fun for everyone. There will be visiting craftspeople from across the nation showcasing and demonstrating their talents. Back by popular demand as part of this special fall festival is the Sixth Annual Southern Gospel Jubilee.

You will be enjoying the "Dove Brother's," "The Greenes," "Kingdom Heirs w/Dr. Jerry Goff," and "The Perrys."

This package includes admission to Dollywood (2 days), lodging at Cragmont, three breakfasts at Cragmont and transportation to Cragmont and home again as well as to Dollywood two days.

You get all the above for only \$200.00 per person. There is a non-refundable (within 30 days prior to trip) deposit of \$100.00 due with your registration form.

The balance of \$100.00 per person will be due upon arrival at Cragmont.

Come join us for fun and great fellowship, music and colors. ♦



## Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment: ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Fall Gospel Festival With Colors, Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

## The Hill Top Classic

**I**f you like to play golf, we hope you will be interested in this trip.

Two golf courses have been selected in the mountains within an hour's drive of Cragmont. Tentatively they are Blue Ridge Country Club at Linville and Grassy Creek Country Club at Spruce Pine.

You will drive to Cragmont on September 23. On Monday the 24, after

downing a famous Cragmont breakfast, we will strike out to play golf. After the day's round, you will come back to Cragmont for the evening meal. On the 25th, after breakfast, we will strike out for a different golf course and another 18 holes, returning to Cragmont for the evening meal. Entertainment is planned for Monday and Tuesday evenings.



Wednesday the 26 you make the trip home.

The total cost of the trip is \$160 per person. We have room for 80 golfers. The cost includes: breakfast Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, evening meal Monday and Tuesday, two rounds of golf, three nights lodging, and transportation to the golf course. On the two days we play golf, you will be responsible for lunch on the course.

To register for this event please fill out the form to your left and send it to Cragmont along with a \$50 deposit to secure your spot. Balance is due upon arrival. Master Card and Visa cards are accepted. ♦



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711.



## LEC Youth N.C. Cragmont June 9-10



### Camp Vandemere

### Greetings From Camp Vandemere

by H. Kevin Gaskins

**W**ow! What a way to kick off the summer. As a counselor at the Youth Missions Retreat May 26-28, I experienced a weekend of challenge and culture. Led by directors Ray and Ginny Conner, everyone there was plunged into a weekend of challenging Christian learning sessions and physical activities. Part of our learning for the weekend was to get to know and understand something about other cultures. One of the ways we did this was through experiencing foreign food like Quiche Loraine and those delicious "refugee dinners." We also had a "camp time" similar to that of a different time zone. Other experiences like the movie we watched taught us about the struggles that Christians in other lands

endure when they profess the name of Jesus.

One of the most meaningful times of the weekend was spent doing a "reality exercise." With the help of the Free Will Baptist Church in Oriental, NC, our campers experienced first hand some of the same things they had seen in the film earlier. Basically, the kids had to find clues and reach a "safe house" without being captured. Then they would be taken to a secret meeting place where they would eventually take Communion. Some made it and some didn't, but by the end of the exercise everyone had an appreciation for the struggle that other Christians already endure and that we may face in the future. In retrospect, the weekend will be a part of me for the

*"Send out thy light and truth..." Psalm 43:3*



rest of my life. Not only did it move a lot of campers, but, it reminded the adults of what freedom we currently have and how thankful we should be to live in America.

We should also guard that freedom so that we too don't have to hide some day in order to worship God.

Finally, please pray for Camp Vandemere this year, for all of its activities, and pray that many lives are changed through their experience at Camp Vandemere. ❖



## Layman's League

### Spiritual Life Retreat

by Randy Beaman

**T**he Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat was held on June 1-2, 2001, at Camp Vandemere. Approximately 60 laymen attended this wonderful event.

The theme this year was "Following His Steps." We had three wonderful speakers who spoke on the theme. The Rev. Ray Conner, pastor of Holly Springs Original Free Will Baptist, spoke on "Self denial." His background text was Luke 9:23. The Rev. Frank Harrison's subject was "Non-conformity." His text was Romans 12:1-20. Rev. Harrison serves as campus minister at Mount Olive College. The Rev. Chuck Owens, pastor of Harrell's Chapel Church, spoke on "Life Style." His text was 1 John 2:6. These speakers did a fantastic job. Their messages were very inspirational to all.

The Layman's League would like to thank Linda and Mike Williams of



*Above: Pastors who attended the Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat on June 1-2, 2001 at Camp Vandemere.*

Camp Vandemere and their staff for their wonderful hospitality.

If you have not visited Camp Vandemere, please plan to. You will be glad you did.

#### Dates to Remember

**July 9**—Executive and Promotional Board meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**August 13**—Executive and Promotional Board meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**August 20**—Eastern Conference Layman's League, Camp Vandemere. Meal, 6:45 PM, business, 7:30 PM.

**September 10**—Central Conference Layman's League, King's Cross Roads, Farmville, NC.

**October 8**—Executive and Promotional Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**November 12**—Executive and Promotional Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**November 19**—Eastern Conference Layman's League (place to be announced).

**December 3**—Central Conference Layman's League, Rose Hill. Meal, 6:45 PM, Worship and business meeting, 7:30 PM.

**December 10**—Executive and Promotional Meeting, 7 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC. ❖



*Top Left: Speakers at the Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat are left to right, the Rev. Chuck Owen, the Rev. Roy Conners and the Rev. Frank Harrison. Left: Laymen attending the Spiritual Life Retreat at Camp Vandemere.*





# Eastern North Carolina Christian Education Training Conference

August 18, 2001 • 8:00 AM–4:00 PM  
New Bern Riverfront Convention Center  
New Bern, NC



## Keynote Address:

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, *General Administrator, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists*

CEU Credit will be granted Day Care workers. Certificates will be available for \$1.00.

Exhibits will be open from 8:00AM–4:30 PM.

Please check workshop topics that are listed in the June, 2001, *The Free Will Baptist*, pages 24–25.



*Sponsored by Mid-Atlantic  
Christian Education Association*

## Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Coastal  
MACEA and mail with the re-  
gistration form to:

Mrs. Angel Lorton  
105 Ann Court  
New Bern, NC 28560  
or

Mrs. Mary Dudley  
PO Box 39  
Ayden, NC 28513

No child care will be provided at the conference. Please mail registrations by August 6, 2001. Walk-ins are more than welcome. The workshop fee is \$20.00 (lunch included).



## News From Powhatan

by: Rita Otto Jones

We celebrate July 4 because of the freedom our forefathers declared for this country in 1776. According to John 8:36, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." As Christians, we can celebrate doubly this holiday and should tell all the world about the value of our freedom.

In happenings for Powhatan, Original Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, NC congratulations go to our YFA Bible Bowl team who represented the Cape Fear District at the state competition held May 5 at Rodgers Chapel. Four teams faced off in the chapel at Mt. Olive College in the double elimination tournament. Powhatan's teenagers first went against Beaverdam (Pee Dee District) and were the winners after the third round game. Next, they faced Winterville (Central District), the champions from 1999. The 3 rounds ended in a tie, so a tie-breaker was asked.

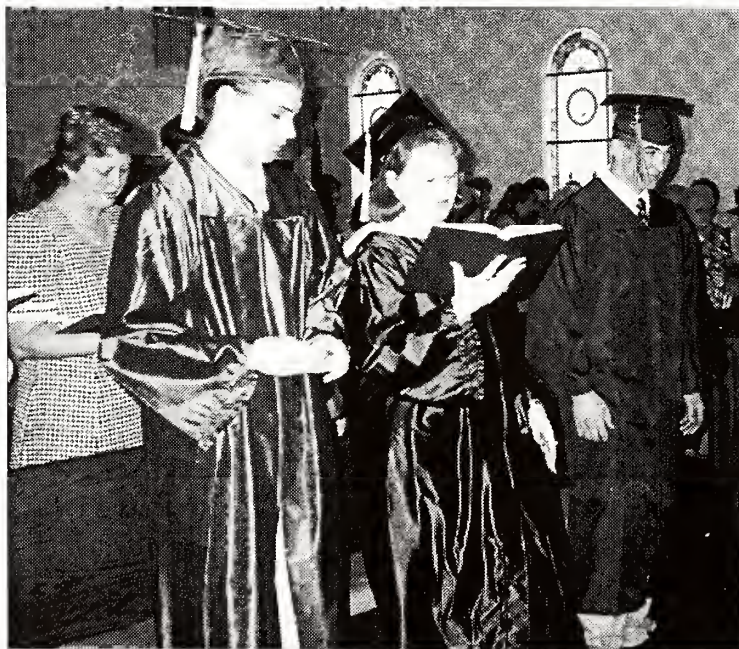
The teams had to name as many nations as they could who had heard the Pentecostal sermon in Acts in their own language. Winterville named one more than Powhatan, so they moved on to a championship slot. Powhatan played again, eliminating Beaverdam and moving up to face Winterville again. Pleasant

Grove (Western District) had been eliminated previously. Powhatan won but in order for Winterville to have 2 losses, they had to play another game. In their fifth and final game, Powhatan answered carefully and memory verses were correctly

recited to claim the win for the second year for Powhatan.

All of the teams were very knowledgeable and are to be commended for their hard work studying the Scripture. Winners of the AFC tournament held that afternoon also were the representatives of the Cape Fear District - Robert's Grove, coached by Larry Faircloth. Congratulations to them and the other teams from LaGrange and Beaverdam. Thank you to moderator Jesse Fulcher and to all the judges, score keepers, and time keepers for the day.

On May 6, three high school graduates were honored in the morning service. Cynthia Narron, Andrew Johnson, and Denny Annis will be graduating this month and were presented with Bibles from the church. Cynthia plans to pursue a nursing degree and Denny, a graphics design degree. Andrew will attend fire fighter's school on scholarship. We pray for God's grace to go with



each of these young people as they face the next few years of transition into adulthood.

Woman's Auxiliary President Sandra Peedin and I attended the State Convention at Shady Grove on May 10. It was

a wonderful morning of fellowship with about 150 others. The young people who helped with the service made it very special. State President Joan Little advised us to give a smile as we go along and always remember to "take Jesus with us."

The reports provided information to take back to local groups. All 7 districts reported with a total of 2,568 members statewide. Powhatan was one of the sixteen A-1 auxiliaries statewide.

The Powhatan Woman's Auxiliary sponsored the first annual Mother/Daughter Banquet on Friday evening, May 11. Becky Harden and Lee Jackson did a great job of decorating. Corsages were made for everyone by Lisa James and her mother. Alice Cole's daughter, Sherrie Pourron, and two other ladies from Amelia Church provided the entertainment as the group "Trilogy."

Debbie Langdon, the choir director of Amelia and member of "Trilogy," commented on seeing familiar faces. Some of the ladies who used to keep her son as a baby at a local day care were present. Also, some of the girls from her former Girl Scout troop are members of Powhatan. She said you can have a relationship that's not always by blood with children you care for and love. A big part of being a mother is being a nurturer, and for a Christian mother, nurturing your children in God's love and His Word.

Games for the evening included a "know your mother/daughter" question list; a "women of the Bible" quiz; a "guess the number of jelly beans" challenge; and a "drop the clothespin" race for the braver ones. It was a fun evening.

On Mother's Day Sunday, Joyce Blinson, Lisa James, and Beverly Price each received a plant from the Woman's Auxiliary for being the oldest mother, youngest mother, and mother with the most children present respectively. All mothers received some candy as they exited the church.

The Youth Convention on May 18-20

*continued on page 25*



## President of Evangelical Training Association Passes

**M**ay 20, 2001 was a glorious Lord's day for Dr. Jonathan N. Thigpen as he was ushered into the presence of God during the early hours of the morning. For four and one-half years he battled ALS. His family and friends are grateful that God was merciful to answer his prayer that he be taken home while sleeping peacefully in his own bed.

Jonathan remained a contributor to the ministry of ETA until the end. After relinquishing the day-to-day duties on April 5, 2001, he had been attending to writing projects from his home office.

Visitation was held at College Church in Wheaton, Illinois on Tuesday evening, May 22, 2001. The funeral was held at the same church on Wednesday, May 23, 2001 at 11:00 AM with the burial in the Wheaton Cemetery. On Thursday, the family traveled to Nashville, Tennessee for a Memorial Service at Donelson Free Will Baptist Church with friends, family, and former colleagues.

In lieu of flowers, it was Jonathan's desire that donations be sent to Evangelical Training Association, the ministry where he served the Lord for the past eight and one half years, (1-800-369-8291).

Jonathan served as president of Evangelical Training Association of Wheaton,

Illinois, between the years 1992–2001. Founded in 1930, ETA consists of about 200 member institutions of Christian higher education in 18 countries. ETA exists to promote excellence in church education as well as to provide programs and materials to assist churches in training and equipping adults. Since its founding, ETA has distributed over 3.5 million textbooks and awarded more than 90,000 diplomas to college and seminary graduates.

Jonathan was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee, where he earned a B. A. in Bible from the Free Will Baptist Bible College. He attained the Master of Religious Education degree from Temple Baptist Seminary in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He successfully completed the Ph.D. degree at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois.

Dr. Thigpen ministered in a variety of positions over the span of his life: youth worker, pastor, denominational publishing executive, college professor, curriculum writer and editor. Most recently he served as Advertising Manager for *Christianity Today, Inc.* for four years. A dynamic and energetic communicator, Jonathan shared a passion for training and equipping others to effectively teach the Word of God.

Jonathan resided in Wheaton with his wife, Yvonne and daughter, Jessica. Yvonne Thigpen served as Director of Educational Ministries at ETA between 1990–2001. Yvonne assumed the position of Interim President in the spring of 2001 due to the advancement of Jonathan's ALS. Jonathan took the position of President Emeritus and continued to work on special projects from their home. The Thigpens have ministered in convention and training workshops across the country. They have been active in College Church, Wheaton, where Yvonne still directs the third grade Sunday school department and where Jonathan taught adults during his ministry there.

The Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry has been working with ETA for two years now and many of our folks have achieved certification using ETA materials over the years of its existence. We regret the passing of Dr. Thigpen, but our loss is the Lord's gain.

One of Dr. Thigpen's close friends, the Rev. Keith Kenemer sent this message, "I miss you Jonathan, for you were my friend." ❖

*Powhatan continued from page 24*

highlighted our Gold Level Outstanding Youth Group's year with over 20 from the church in attendance with over 400 others! We "survived" the weekend with Roberta Widhalm (our youth president) being inducted as the new State Recording Secretary and Nikki Jones (our Recording Secretary) becoming the new State Board representative for the Cape Fear District.

We displayed our Survivor flag, head bands, arm bands, etc., on Saturday evening showing the unity of our Powhatan Tribe! Thank you to Martha Parsons, Diane Riley, Larry Faircloth, Karen Ribeiro, Faye Bryant, Karen Honeycutt, and everyone who helped plan and carry out the weekend of fun. Thank you also to Deacon Bob Widhalm and bus driver Jackie Guy for going with us for the weekend.

Everyone is invited to our Vacation Bible School—"Jesus to the Rescue," from July 8–12 with commencement on Friday, the 13. ❖

## Rose Hill Honors Oldest Member

**R**ose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, NC, honored its oldest member, Mrs. Eula Haddock with a 96th birthday celebration following the evening worship service on Sunday, April 22. Mrs. Haddock has been a member of Rose Hill Church since 1920. ❖

*Pictured Right: Eula Haddock and her daughter.*



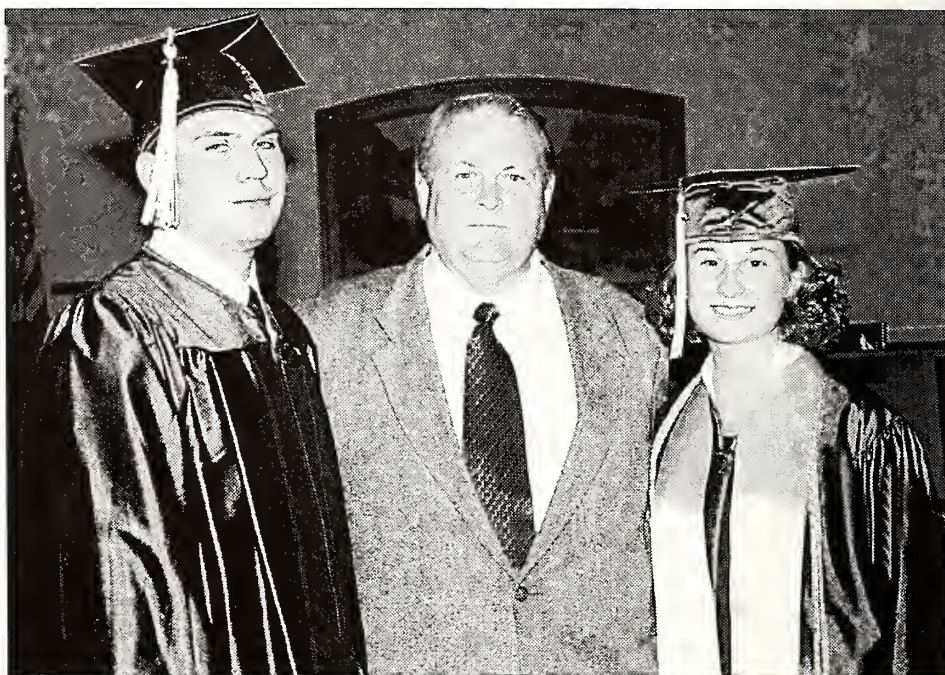


## Marsh Swamp Students Receive Scholarships

**H**unt High School graduates Dana Letchworth and Dustin Williams were recipients of the Sanford Selby and Virginia Stott Lamm Scholarship administered through Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Sims, NC. Each will receive \$1,000.

Letchworth, daughter of Al and Frankie Letchworth, will attend the North Carolina State University. Williams, son of Dewayne Williams and Robin Boykin, will attend Mount Olive College.

The scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of scholastic ability, financial need, Christian commitment and involvement in their church. ❖



*Above: Back row—The Rev. Ronnie Hayes, present pastor, and Ricky Raynor, Deacon Board Chairman. Front row—Deacon Granville Denning, Doris Godwin, and Doris Tart, active members since the 1951 first service. Not pictured, Ray G. Smith, National Commander of the American Legion, also present during the first service in 1951.*

## Smyrna Church Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary

*by Helen Smith*

**O**n the first Sunday in May, 1951, the first service was held in the new building of what is now known as Smyrna Original Free Will Baptist Church (Cape Fear Conference), located in the Meadow community with its first pastor, the Rev. Herman Wooten in charge of the service.

The church celebrated its founding, on August 20, 1950, during its annual Homecoming, held on the first Sunday in October, 2000.

Deacon Board Chairman, Ricky Raynor led in a brief ceremony on Sunday, May 6, 2001, the fiftieth anniversary of the first meeting in the church. Those present who were present on the first Sunday in May, 1951, put fifty cents into the birthday and anniversary bank. ❖



## Eagle Scout Presentation at Deep Run Church

by Jo Ellen Sloan

**R**euben Carnell Sloan, III (Trey) received his Eagle Scout Rank on Sunday, February 18, 2001, at the Deep Run Original Free Will Baptist Church, Deep Run, NC. Eagle Scout Sloan was presented his badge at the National Court of Honor ceremony conducted by the Troop Institutional representative Gary Kennedy of Troop 447, sponsored by the Deep Run Church. Eagle Scout Sloan began his scouting career as a Cub Scout in Pack 447 in 1991. He earned his God and Me Award in the God and Country series in 1992 and his Arrow of Light Award, which is the highest award in Cub Scouting, in 1994.

Trey moved to Boy Scout Troop 447 in 1994 and under the leadership of Scoutmaster Nelson Blizzard and Assistant Scoutmaster Johnny Stroud, he has advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout, which is the highest rank for a Boy Scout. During his Scouting tenure, Trey attended Camp-orees, Advance-orees, and summer camp. He participated in the Troop projects, such as, road-side clean-up, good neighbor breakfasts, assisted with other Eagle Scout projects, and earned 41 Merit Badges.

His Eagle project consisted of putting reflector posts at each driveway entrance of his church, cleaning out the ditch and putting rock in the ditch and around each of the driveway entrances. There was the addition of a fence with the denominational logo attached. The project was financed by friends, family, and church members. The project was completed by fellow Scouts, adult Scout



leaders, family, and friends of Scouting.

Trey is a member of the Deep Run Church and Sunday School. He serves as a Sunday school officer and plays the piano for Sunday school and the church choir. Trey has always been very active in all projects of the church. He is a Senior Honor Student at South Lenoir High School and is enrolled in the current LCC College Credit Program. He has been accepted at East Carolina University for the Fall semester, where he intends to major in Biology. He also intends to pursue a career in the field of medicine.

Trey is the son of Jo Ellen Sloan of Deep Run, NC and the late Reuben Carnell Sloan, Jr., the grandson of Elwood and Nettie Jean Hill of Deep Run, and Reuben and Edna Sloan, formerly of Kinston, now residing in Merritt, NC. ♦

## Fifth Eastern Union Meeting

by Russell Tyson, Sunday School Convention Vice-President

**O**n April 21, 2001, the Fifth Eastern Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention met at Core Point Free Will Baptist Church, Blounts Creek, NC. The meeting was opened by the Rev. Gary Watson, Fifth Eastern Union Meeting Moderator with 43 ministers and laymen in attendance. The Rev. Timothy Webber, Pastor of the host church gave the welcome and devotion, taken from Mark 1:7. Minutes from the last meeting were read by Lexa Upton, Secretary/Treasurer and were approved. The Rev. Owen Arthur gave an updated report on Camp Vandemere.

After a short business meeting, the Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church Choir brought special music. The morning message, taken from Romans 1:13-16, was brought by the Rev. Gordon Hart, Pastor of British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC.

The next meeting will be at 10:00 AM, July 21, 2001 at Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church, 795 New Liberty Road, New Bern, NC. Please plan to attend. Our speaker will be Swade Benson. ♦

## Cape Fear Union Meeting

**T**he Cape Fear Conference Union Meeting will convene with Wooten's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church July 28, 2001. From Benson take Highway 50 to Highway 42, turn left on Highway 42, and then right on Sauls Road. The church is about 1 mile on the right.

The Rev. Charlie Carroll will bring the morning message. Special music will be by the host church.

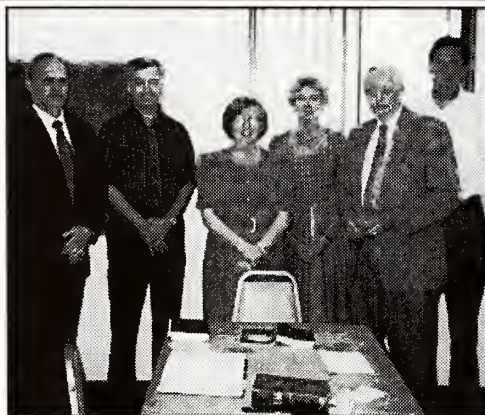
Everyone is encouraged to come. Lunch will be provided by the host church. We hope to see you on July 28, 2001, 10:00 AM. ♦



## Goldsboro First Church League Begins New Study

**D**oes getting to know God sound like tedious work? Do you long to know Him better, but feel uneasy about being quiet with Him? God said, "I AM that I AM." He didn't say "My name is 'I will be sometime in the future' or 'I was sometime in the past'." His name is I AM, and He is in the present and wants nothing more than to reveal Himself to us.

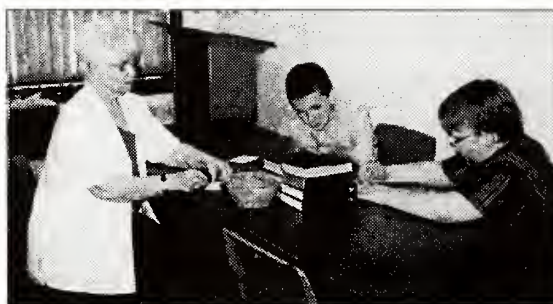
Our Adult League Class is beginning a study of the book *I AM, The Unveiling of God* by Steve Fry. The Intermediates are beginning a study on the Parables. Our League meets on the second and fourth Sundays at 6:00 PM. We have a brief assembly at 6:00 PM, then you can watch or participate in our Sword Drill. There are individual classes for every age. ❖



*Above: Adult League Class—Left to right Joe Wall, Johnny Skinner, Sharlene Howell, Peggy Dawson, Shelton Rhodes, and Chris Schlaeppi*



*Above: League Directors—Left to right Carol Davis and Marci Rollins, Secretary.*



*Left: Intermediate League Class—Margaret Ard, Timothy Howell, and Cory Johnson.*

## News From Everett Chapel

**W**e welcome our new pastor, the Rev. Lloyd F. Hargis and his wife, Sandra. Rev. Hargis and his wife are Clayton natives and invite the people of the area to come visit them at Everett Chapel, Clayton, NC.

Sunday school begins at 9:45 AM with morning worship at 11:00 AM. Sunday evening service is at 6:30 PM and Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM. Youth Services are held on Wednesday evening at 7:15 PM. Cottage prayer meeting is held in different homes each Friday evening at 7:30 PM.

Members are excited about the growth we are experiencing. During the past few months we have had the privilege of welcoming eight members by letters, Stephen and Krista McClain, the Rev. Lloyd and Mrs. Sandra Hargis, Dorothy Gazaway, Sandra Markle, the Rev. Charles and Mrs. Beatrice Tucker.

Eleven people have united with the church after receiving Christ as their Saviour and being baptized: Robert D. Harris, Jason Barbee, Victoria James, Hope



Rary, Lynda Mooneyham, Brooke Rary, John Gazaway, Melissa Mooneyham, Jauville Campbell, Wesley Johnson, and Elizabeth Boling who were baptized on April 22, 2001, by Elizabeth's great-grandfather, the Rev. Dewey Boling.

We welcomed from our inactive roll, Charles and Frances Mooneyham and by statement of faith Joey Markle and Charlene Johnson. We "Praise the Lord" for his blessing.

In Memoriam: Sister Dorothy Carter

went to be with the Lord on April 15, 2001 following declining health. She is survived by daughter, Donna Johnson, sons Richard White, Tom White, Roy White, and Rev. Braxton Carter, as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May we remember her family during this time.

Everett Chapel "honored eight graduates from Clayton High School and one graduate from Meredith College on Sunday morning, May 20, 2001. The graduates were: Natalie Alford, Kevin Crocker, C. J. Deans, Justin Driver, April Farmer, Kari Ingram, Travis Price, Jason Williams (high school) and Wendy Ferrell Thomas (college). Our mascots were Bethany Durham and Joshua Ross.

A fellowship lunch was held in our Spiritual Life Building, following a message by the Rev. Lloyd Hargis, challenging the graduates to always put God first and follow His guidance. Display tables with pictures, awards, and gifts were fixed for each graduate. ❖





## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington

**I**n a time in history when we are living longer, how can we view aging as a possibility of character force? What is the character of a person? Hillman describes character as "that specific composition of traits, foibles, delights, and commitments" (xvi). He proposes a new thought, namely, that aging offers the opportunity of greater character development and impact.

### Value of Longevity

A giant oak tree in North Carolina rests on long roots. An antique vase is of value. An old photograph is precious. Hillman notes: "oldness is essential to what we love about the character of a person, a place, a thing" (xxviii). Why is this? What lasts?

Hillman believes character in aging points to a refined intelligence, broadened learning, and survival in crisis. Such a character force can serve society.

Why last? Hillman insists: "The last years, so valuable for reviewing life and making amends, for cosmological speculation and the confabulation of memories into stories, for sensory enjoyment of the world's images, and for connections with apparitions and ancestors—these values our cultures has let wither" (17).

### Old Age and the Body

Science has sought to help the aging body overcome disease. The next step must be rejuvenation or what? Hillman insists: Longevity becomes a kind of osmosis, merging with older lives in older places and older things. You are outliving your own life. No longer a lonely leaf on a drying branch, or even its fruit you are sinking into the sapwood, and you become one hundred, one thousand years old, as old as the tree itself with the long life to come—a life of stories and scenes that go on and on,

James Hillman. *The Force of Character*. New York Ballantine Books, 1999. 236 pages. ISBN 0-345-42405-0

of shards and talismans that provoke ever-fresh fantasies" (27).

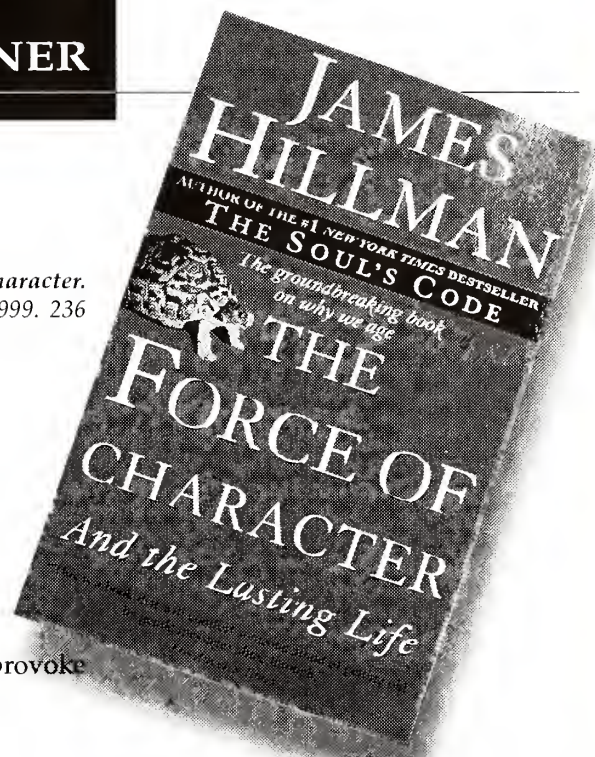
### Old Age and Character

What is our character? Hillman explains: "Character is characters; our nature is a plural complexity, a multiphasic polysemous weave, a bundle, a tangle, a sleeve. That's why we need a long old age: to ravel out the snarls and set things straight" (32).

Character has a literal and an imaginative side—the idea of character more interesting to Hillman. He states: "Our character becomes the fertile source of fictions that add another dimension of life to our lives even as we fade as actualities. Jung realized this truth in his very late years, finding that he had become unfamiliar with the character he had assumed himself to be. His selfsame reality became porous, indefinite, susceptible. As he wholly loosens into the world of 'plants, animals, clouds' and is assimilated by the natural world, his character in the imagination of the human world continues to last, and goes on generating stories of who he really was" (39).

### Oldness

Why does modern America have trouble with oldness? Why do we see oldness as overuse or threadbare? Why do we see old as without beauty and



usefulness? Hillman warns: "Without this sense of old as a state of being beyond beauty and utility, we cannot come easily into older years. Instead of the lasting that oldness signifies the richness of accumulations coupled with the shedding of inessentials, we moderns take old only as the result of destructive time, as a last stage linked to death rather than to lastingness" (44).

Lastingness offers the chance to see life as a story, to develop eccentricities, to grow in awareness. The Anglo-Saxons thought of old as hidden inside the world, wereald (world + eald or old). The wereald (old world) is "this nourishing place" (43). Age nourishes.

### Conclusion

How can character as an inner force be of greater value than those outward forces of beauty, youth, dress? Hillman stresses the necessary shift from outward to inner nature as fundamental in character: "The scale, the diet, the mirror, and the toilet bowl become my fetish companions. If I can instead, think of my innermost nature as my character, I may turn to the changes in my nature with a curious mind, digging or discoveries" (55). v



# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning



**I**n Genesis 2:5, we read that Adam was created to work or till the ground. This work was ordained as a blessing. However, in Genesis 3:17-19 after the fall in the

Garden, work would now have to be done for food. This work would produce exhaustion and frustration. In Ecclesiastes 4:4 we are clearly told that no matter how hard or how well or orderly we work, because the world is cursed by the fall, in the end the work is essentially meaningless. This can be paralleled by the relationship of work to God's mighty acts of Creation which are called works. We read of these in Psalms 8, 19, and 102. All of these Biblical understandings of work and industry are symbolized in the sculpture of the gear wheel (the sign of industry) being lovingly polished by hand.

## Artistic Style

The important factor of this detail of the hands and the gear wheel is that these are actual size. The hand portrayed in the sculpture is the size of the human hand and the gear wheel in proportion. The artistic style is that of realism with a great amount of detail. Examine the detail of the gear wheel which has the teeth as carefully cut as a real gear. Examine the details of the hands which have life-size fingernails. Examine the folds within the clothing which appear to be a thick cloth like that of industrial clothing.



Source: Christian art of the Hands of Industry at a pineapple plantation on the Island of Sao Miguel, Azores.

## Symbolism

The cleansing of this wheel, which is what we are seeing, shows a wiping rag and a trail of material flowing to the lower center of the illustration. This is most probably a reference to the Biblical cursing of labor. The new labor in the industrial age is very often seen as a moving away from the Biblical cursing. Hands made the machine (and the implication here is by Divine Power), but the wheel which symbolizes the machine has saved the labor and thereby cleansed the labor.

## Conclusion

The Old Testament cursing of labor has always seemed troublesome for the church. However, we must remember that the church is under the new dispen-

sation (New Testament) which has the potential to elevate the importance of work and allows us to work to the glory of God and for God's people.

Indeed, to all who are in need the machine has created a surplus of goods. Therefore, giving is more possible. This Christian sculpture typifies the industrial age in its positive aspect, for machines may save labor as well as create labor. However, there is also a darker context of the industrial age where labor-saving machines erased jobs of labor and created work as a hostage to machines. This Christian sculpture does not address this darker side, for labor here is about the lifting of the curse and the cleansing of the industry. ❖



# July 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

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4—Independence Day  
8—Children's Home Fifty-fifth Annual Alumni Homecoming  
13—Freshman Advising Day, MOC

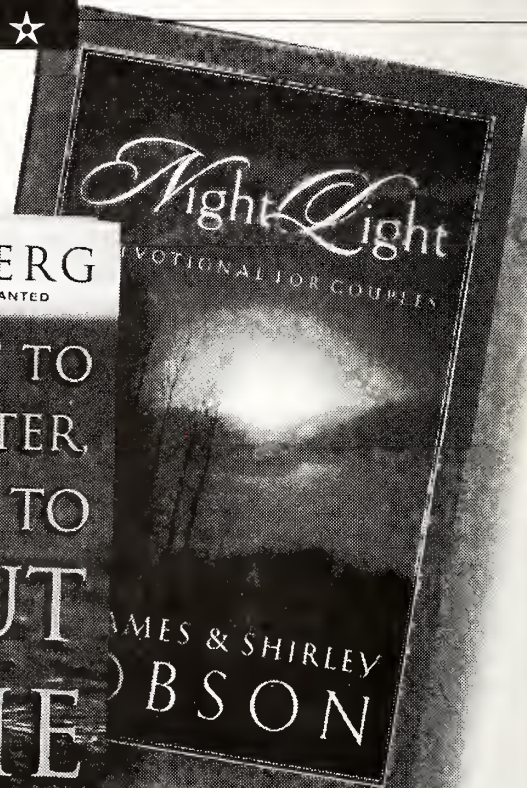
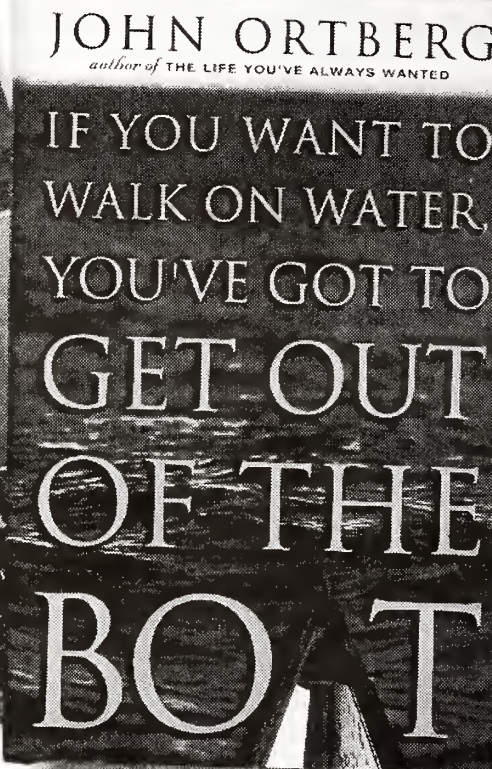
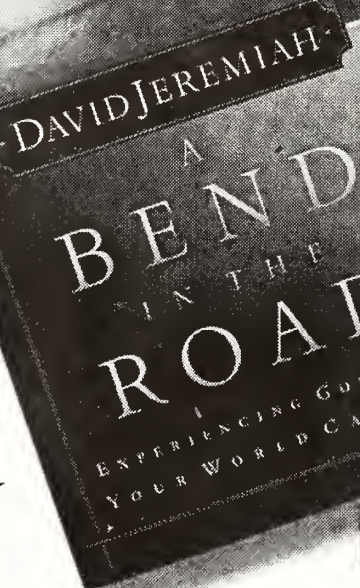
21—Fifth Eastern Union Meeting  
23—Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award Nominations Deadline  
28—Cape Fear Conference Union Meeting, Wooten's Chapel, 10:00 AM

30—Pastor's Conference, MOC  
31—Deadline for Convention Nominations



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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



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Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
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*"Celebrating Our Heritage"*



## Revival Services, Then and Now

**R**evivals are a part of church history. In the Book of Acts, we read about the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, resulting in the 3000 souls being born into the family of God. Jesus "...commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence" (Acts 1:4-5). After Christ's Ascension, the disciples and other followers returned to Jerusalem, assembled in an upper room, and "...continued with one accord in prayer and supplication,..." (Acts 1:14). They remained in the state of unity and prayer. It did not end after Peter's great sermon and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Their status of unity (one accord) is mentioned several times in the first chapters of Acts.

History records the Pre-Reformation revivals (AD 100-1500), and in 1727 came the First Great Awakening, then the Second Great Awakening in 1792 which began as a prayer movement. These were followed by four other periods of revival that impacted Christendom around the world. Great men of God emerged as leaders in these movements, such as D. L. Moody in the Great Awakening of 1880. The twentieth century experienced the Pentacostal, Evangelical, and Charismatic movements.

All these awakenings, or revivals, were marked by definite characteristics—prayer, confession of sin on the part of God's people, unity, and a complete surrender to the will of God. Powerful sermons poured forth from God's spokesmen. These same characteristics must also exist in any great movement of God upon His people.

We recognize the important role and impact of any true and Biblical spiritual awakening. We relate to such events of our lifetime; therefore, let us consider the matter of revivals and their important role in the history of our own denomination and churches, and the changes that have occurred during the past half century.

Following World War II, and continuing into the 1960s, there was a prevailing revival spirit in our churches. Personally, I was fortunate to have been a part of that period of time when youth were quite involved in the ministry of the church, the Sunday school, and youth movements. Youth rallies were common. Services would be filled mostly with young people and many responded in giving their lives to Jesus Christ and a good number entered into full-time

## Editor's thoughts...

*C. H. Overman*



Christian service, becoming pastors, evangelists, missionaries, etc.

Practically all churches scheduled "revival services" at least once each year and some more often. The date usually corresponded with the farming season, at a time when crops were being sold so there would be greater financial support for the revival. Of course, "revival services" did not always result in a revival, but in most instances the church was revived and there would be a number of decisions for Christ. Some revival services lasted for two weeks, and some were extended beyond the two weeks, especially if the leadership in the church determined the spiritual impact to be great enough to continue. These were referred to as "protracted" meetings, meaning they were extended beyond the original scheduled time. In many instances, prayer services were held to specifically pray for the the revival, and before each service began there was a special prayer session. There was always prayer for the unsaved and prayer for the spiritual needs of the church.

The revival minister became the evangelist, as is true today. Preaching was strong, resulting in lives being changed as the backslidden came in rededication and the lost were redeemed. Children heartily sang, "This Little Light of Mine," and other choruses that were forever planted in our minds. Teenagers shared their talents in testimony and song. Yes, indeed, revival time was a special time for the church community.

Nowadays, the number of services has been reduced to three or four. Seldom do we hear of a full-week revival. Attendance usually consists of the church members (some of them) and visitors from neighboring churches. Over all, revival attendance has declined and our stated reasons are not always justifiable. Yes, times have changed. Next month we will examine the effect of these changing times on "revival services" and what is required for God's people to truly experience revival. We would be pleased to hear from our readers regarding the need for revival in our churches. What do you feel is required of us before God can send a revival? ♦



## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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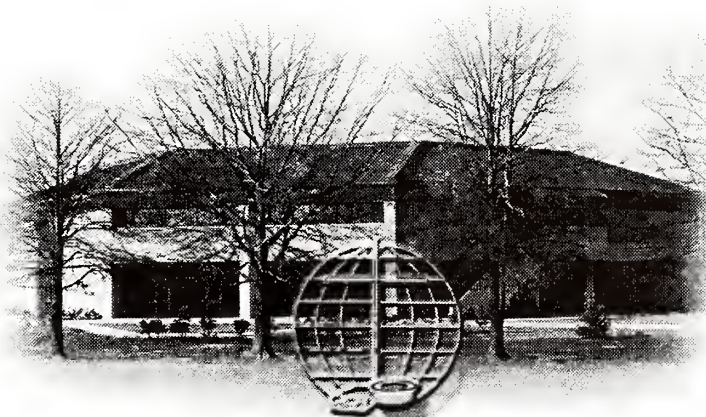
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## NEXT MONTH



*Home Missions and Evangelism*



*August is Convention Promotion Month*



# Jessica An inspiration to All Harker

by Carla Combs,  
Editorial Assistant,  
Free Will Baptist Press



**J**essica Harker doesn't know the meaning of defeat. Her lifelong battle with a rare bone disease has made the twelve-year-old girl an inspiration to everyone she meets. Her spirit testifies that with God all things are possible, even for a little girl with bones as soft as tissue.

There was no greater proof of that than on the evening of December 17, 2000. Jessica, a member of Elm Grove Church in Ayden, NC, was backstage preparing for the annual Christmas pageant when another child accidentally bumped into her wheelchair. Jessica was sent hurling to the floor. Her mother, Sarah and stepfather, Randy Pait, knew she was probably injured, but Jessica insisted on going through with the program.

"I had one of the main parts," explained Jessica. "I couldn't just leave."

Randy rushed home and returned with Jessica's pain medication. With the pain subdued, she managed to go through the play just as she had rehearsed. No one in the congregation had any inkling that they were watching a little girl who had just broken her hip.

"That's just how Jessica is," says Nina Fussell, church member. "She keeps on going and never complains. I had no idea that she was hurt or had even fallen out of her wheelchair."

Why would a mother allow her child to go through with something like that, knowing her daughter was possibly hurt? Well, Jessica is no ordinary child and her faith bears witness to it.

As a small baby, Jessica was often sick. She began to suffer from a pattern of broken and cracked bones. Sarah recalls normal handling such as diaper changing would result in fractures to Jessica's arms and legs. At the age of two, Jessica was taken to UNC-Chapel Hill Medical Center, where geneticist Dr. Arthur Alyswoth diagnosed her as having Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI) or "brittle

bone disease" as it is commonly referred. A genetic disorder that affects collagen production, OI leaves bones so frail that the slightest movement can break or fracture them.

"Jessica's tolerance for pain is greater than the average person's. Because her bones are so soft, she has actually broken ribs and never even realized it," commented Sarah.

"I've broken bones before and didn't tell mom about it," added Jessica.

---

*"...She keeps on going  
and never complains."*

---

Nina Fussell

She has undergone many operations in her short life. Doctors inserted steel rods into her legs and in the most recent surgery, titanium braces were placed at the base of her skull to support her neck. Because of bone deterioration, the tip of her spine is beginning to invaginate her brainstem, causing severe headaches. Another operation is scheduled in the fall. Doctors will attempt to remove the tip of her spine to allow more room between the spine and brainstem. To do this delicate procedure, an incision will be made in the back of Jessica's mouth.

Sarah remembers quite vividly Jessica's first operation. Dr. Mooney at the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem was scheduled to insert a steel rod into Jessica's spine to offer support and protection of her spinal cord. While in



the operating room, the surgeon called Sarah through an intercom and told her Jessica's bones had "the consistency of wet toilet paper." Though the doctor seemed hesitant to proceed, Sarah's faith



was strong. "I told him to keep going (with the surgery), that he could do it. He got us into it and he could get us out."

It is that type of courage and conviction in Christ that has kept Jessica and her family going even when it seems there is no hope. Since that first procedure, Jessica has endured at least three major operations, extensive hospital stays, and countless broken bones. When Jessica hurts, the whole family feels it too. Jessica has four siblings, Samantha and Marshall Harker, and stepbrothers, Richard and Kaleb Pait. When Jessica is hospitalized, the children stay with relatives, usually Sarah's sisters. Jessica's father, Brian Harker, who lives in Ayden, pitches in as well, caring for Samantha and Marshall or staying right at Jessica's bedside. Sarah often finds herself juggling a household, a family, a full-time job, and caring for Jessica at the same time.

"Sometimes I just feel like I can't go on. But whenever Jessica gets really sick, my family just jumps right in and helps. Our church family has been supportive. I can't tell you just how much the people at Elm Grove have helped us over the years. I wouldn't know where to begin. People just stop their own lives and go right with us to the hospital and stay with us."

Elm Grove Pastor Frankie Baggett is ever ready to lend a helping hand, a shoulder to cry on, and always a prayer.

"I try to remind Sarah that God will always provide and He will never give someone more than they can bear. I can't imagine what Jessica and her family go through but they pull together. They are tight-knit and reach out to each other. Sarah's sisters are right there; it's a beautiful family. Their faith in God is so strong."

The church held a fundraiser for Jessica in June. With the help of the Rotary Club and Ayden Middle School, \$5000 was raised. Sarah is hoping to purchase a new wheelchair for Jessica that is a lighter weight and easier to maneuver than the one she currently uses.

Jessica and her family count every day as a blessing and never take one act of kindness for granted. When Jessica was younger, a long-time family friend, JoAnn Wade, arranged for her to meet country music singer Billy Ray Cyrus in person.

Last year the Make-A-Wish Foundation granted Jessica a wish. Being a little older and a little wiser, Jessica asked for a service dog. Make-A-Wish got in contact with a Christian organization in Wilmington called Carolina Canines. The owners, Rick and Dee Hairston,



train dogs to assist disabled persons with daily living skills. After meeting Jessica and learning about her particular needs, the Hairstons paired her with a lovable Chocolate Lab named "Jasper." He is able to help pull Jessica's wheelchair, open electric doors, fetch the telephone, as well as being a loyal companion who gives unconditional love to Jessica. Jessica and Jasper are becoming best friends. He occasionally attends services at Elm Grove Church right along side of Jessica. The congregation doesn't seem to mind.

With everything that Jessica has been through, the last thing that she wants people to do is feel sorry for her. She thrives on being as independent as pos-

*"...She has a strong faith in the Lord. I don't have to counsel her, she counsels me."*

*Pastor Frankie Baggett*

sible. Her parents encourage her to do so. When her health allows, she attends Ayden Middle School where she says P.E. and communications are her favorite subjects. She loves to go swimming and looks forward to spending every other weekend with her father Brian. Every summer she looks forward to going to Cragmont with other church youth. Family members take turns going with her to provide assistance with her special needs. She says she looks forward to the evenings after devotions when campers go to the rooms before bedtime. There she becomes a typical pre-teen girl, laughing and giggling and talking about everything young girls find amusing.

Jessica Harker is truly remarkable and her faith in God and her undying thirst for life spills over to everyone she meets. Frankie Baggett is in awe of his young church member. "Jessica is an amazing young lady. She gets involved with everything at church and pretty much does anything she wants to do. She has a strong faith in the Lord. I don't have to counsel her, she counsels me."

What advice does Jessica have for other young people?

"Do your best and if you ever get down about something, don't give up, just keep going."

And that is exactly what Jessica Harker intends on doing. ❖

For more information about Osteogenesis Imperfecta:

Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation  
804 W. Diamond Avenue  
Suite 210  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
e-mail: bonelink@oif.org



# Free Union Emmaus Day

*"Have You Recognized Your Companion  
Walking With You and Have You Allowed  
Yourself to Stand on His Promises?"*

by Pepper Worthington

**F**ree Union Free Will Baptist Church in Sea Level has established the month of July as the month for their Emmaus Day, a day the larger community comes together to welcome the presence of Christ in their community walk together, in their community worship together, in their community meal together, and in their community event of Free Union's gift-giving celebration.

"Our church seeks to draw everybody here twice a year, once in July and once in November on Homecoming Day. We love to see a full church!" exclaimed Almeta Taylor. "Our church elected to give gifts away on those two days." "It's a wonderful day," added Julian Wayne Gaskill as he helped fry sea mullets and shrimp in a deep fryer under a tent in the back of the church.

"That it is," echoed Lorraine Wade. She had organized the meal of shrimp, fish, slaw, apple sauce, fresh tomatoes, and other embellishments. "I tell you," she stressed, "a lot of folks have helped to make this Emmaus Day special. I'd like to thank a bunch of them—Joyce Salter, Linda Gaskill, Debbie Gaskill, Gordan Wayne Gaskill, Brittany Saulman, Stevie Gaskill, Benjamin Gaskill, Tilmon Allen Taylor, Charles Sexton, Dawnie Wade, Pauline Gaskill, and all who cooked the desserts. Have I left anybody out?" she asked.

"Don't think so," replied Julian Wayne Gaskill. "I believe you got 'em all."

The heat hovered around the tent while the grease popped, crackled, and sizzled. Everyone entering Free Union could smell lunch.

## Special Music

Special music filled the Emmaus Day service. Lisa Fulcher and Mary Willis sang, uplifting all with their testimony in words and melodies. "Surely the Lord is

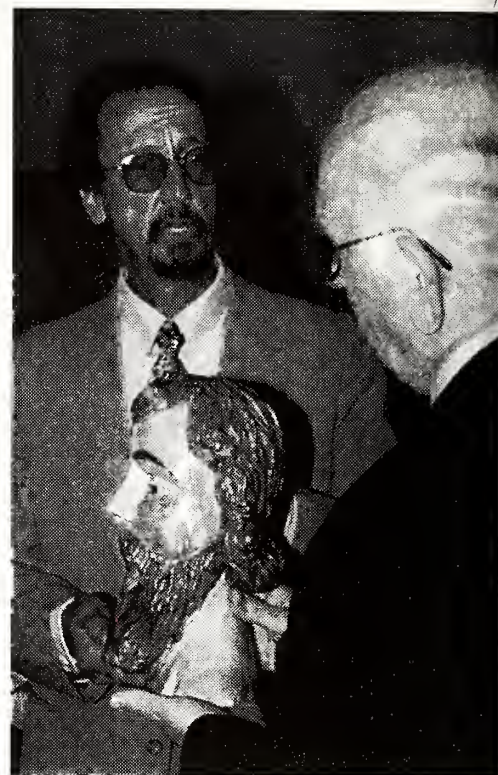
in this place," noted Mary Willis as she spoke of the Lord's mighty power and grace in the church. "I pray that you will not leave the same today," she stressed. "The world is hungry," she added, "and people are hungry for what they know not. They are hungry for the bread of life. Today we need to share our bread of life," she said.

In singing three songs, *Surely the Lord Is In This Place*, *We're Not Going to Bow*, and *It's Not For Sale*, both Lisa Fulcher and Mary Willis spoke of the importance of God's people working in the church to keep the church going. The Emmaus Day has become an important event in Free Union Free Will Baptist to keep the church going, to renew its fellowship with the larger community, and to celebrate its gift-giving ceremony as a reminder of the blessings of life among believers.

David Swain followed with his deep seventeenth-century phrasing and tonality of the beloved hymn *Amazing Grace*. Brittany Saulman played a tribute to America on her electric piano followed by Jack Goodwin's direction of the Pilgrim's Rest choir from Cedar Island.

## Dedication of the Birdhouse

The Rev. Michael G. Warning presented the church with a gift of a woodcarved birdhouse of a church. "As God cares for the birds of the earth, so God cares for us," said Rev. Warning. Accepting the birdhouse on behalf of the church, Allison



Above: The Rev. Michael G. Warning (left) presents an antique woodcarving of Paul's head to the Rev. David Charles Hansley (right) for his office at the Headquarters of the Original Free Will Baptists.

Gaskill thanked her pastor and noted that her father, Julian Wayne Gaskill, Chair of the Building Committee, would get the birdhouse erected.

The Rev. Clifton Styron prayed: "Lord, we pray that you will be with all of us today, this special Emmaus Day as we come from all areas of our larger community. We pray, too, that the birds will find a home in this birdhouse just as we have found a home in this church. We pray for the protection of our birds. May children come to the house of the Lord and find a home there just as the birds may find a home in the birdhouse. Amen."

## Speaker: the Rev. David Charles Hansley

"What a glorious day this Emmaus Day is at Free Union. To know that this is a special day this church has chosen in order to bring the greater community together is a joy. I know it is late now and that our meal and our gift-giving ceremony awaits us. You can probably smell the food, but I shall give you another bread of life for just a few minutes," began the Rev. David Charles Hansley, Gen-



eral Administrator of the Original Free Will Baptist Convention. He acknowledged the uniqueness of Free Union's effort to fill the church in the July Emmaus Day event and in the November Homecoming Day.

"Have you noticed the Lord on your road to Emmaus?" he asked, his voice firm. "Or do you find yourself as I find myself saying, 'Lord, I did not recognize you on the way to town. Lord, I did not recognize you at this event. Lord, I did not recognize you in the joy of life.' Have you noticed the Lord on your road to Emmaus?" he asked again.

The church became quiet. Even the children who had been restless earlier were silent.

"Imagine we are on a journey of life. We are on the road to Emmaus. A companion joined us and we failed to recognize the presence of the Holy Lord. Have you met the Lord on the way to Emmaus?" he asked again.

### Promises of Jesus

Rev. Hansley spoke of the fear when the disciples did recognize Jesus after His Death. But Jesus sought to bring peace. Jesus sought to be seen in a way not seen before. He sought to be comprehended in a manner never comprehended this way before. Jesus sought to remind His faithful that He left them with promises. Jesus promised He would see them again in paradise. He promised great mercy and great love.

"As we walk on the road to Emmaus," Rev. Hansley continued, "we must *focus* on the promises of Jesus. We must never forget that Jesus promised that we

might have life and might have it more abundantly. Jesus promised us that if we would continue to recognize the Christ that we would experience the peace that passes all understanding. Now let me ask you. Are you prepared to stand on the promises of Jesus?"

### Luke 24:45-49

*Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*

### Are We Prepared to Stand on the Promises of Jesus?

"Are we prepared to stand on the promises of Jesus?" asked Rev. Hansley. "There are four things we must do. First, we must *believe* in the promises of Jesus. Second, we must have *confidence* in the promises of Jesus. Third, we must *recognize* the promises we have made. Fourth, we must *focus* on the promises of Jesus," he stated.

"How many of us could stand before the throne of grace and say, 'I have stood on His promises!' How many of us can say without reservation that we are going to stand on the promises of Jesus? The Lord told the man on the cross that that man's soul would be with Jesus in Paradise, because the man asked Jesus to remember him. Our souls will be with Jesus in Paradise so long as we walk with Jesus on the road to Emmaus," he said, his voice rising.

"And I say, my brothers and sisters, that Jesus promised us redemption for our sin. There is a greater freedom that goes beyond America. Had it not been for Christ we would not be free to have a life in Christ. Have you recognized your companion walking with you and have you allowed yourself to stand on God's promises?" he asked fervently.

### Presentation of Woodcarving

The Rev. Michael G. Warning presented an antique woodcarving of Paul's head acquired in Manila, Philippines.

"As Paul stood by the promise of Jesus, so will this antique woodcarving of Paul's head remind us of God's promise. I present this to you, David Charles, as a



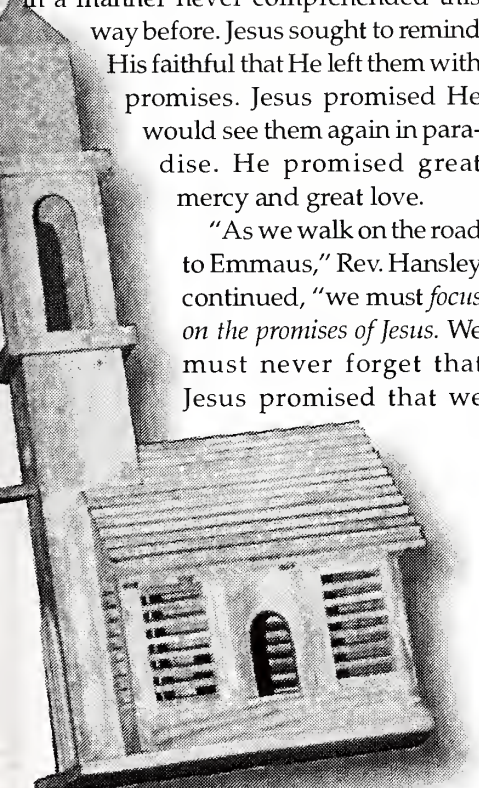
Above: People from the greater eastern North Carolina community celebrated Emmaus Day at Free Union and left with exotic gifts.

gift for your office at the Headquarters of Original Free Will Baptists. As we are brothers in Christ, so Paul, too, is our brother. May Paul's faith and his recognition of Christ in his walk be a reminder to us as we walk the road to Emmaus," noted Rev. Warning.

"I accept this gift," replied Rev. Hansley, "and I shall place it in an appropriate spot to remind all who come to the Headquarters that Paul stood upon the promises of Christ and Paul's refusal to deny his faith cost him his life."

### Emmaus Day Meal and Gift-Giving Ceremony

The Rev. Clifton Styron blessed the food and the gifts. The community gathered to break bread together and to celebrate the festivity of gift-giving, everyone leaving with more than five gifts. "These gifts are our way of celebrating life and the joy we have in Christ," said one member of Free Union. "Everyone is an heir of the Kingdom of Heaven and we stand on the promise of Jesus. This four-paneled screen that I take home today will remind me of this," said a visitor from Beaufort. ❖







**Eighty-ninth Annual Session  
of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
College Hall, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina**

**Tuesday, September 11, 2001**

- 12:15 Convention Golf Fellowship ..... Sponsored by  
Executive Committee  
7:30 Night of Evangelism ..... Free Will Baptist  
Children's Home

**Wednesday Morning Session  
September 12, 2001**

- 8:30 Registration of Ministers, Delegates & Visitors .....  
Credentials Committee  
9:00 Convention Called to Order ..... Buddy Sasser  
Secretary  
Congregational Singing ..... Music Director  
Scripture and Prayer  
Welcome to Mount Olive College  
9:10 President's Remarks ..... The Rev. Leon Grubbs  
9:20 Executive Committee's Report ..... Buddy Sasser  
Secretary  
9:30 Financial Report ..... Mrs. Gloria Brown  
Treasurer  
9:40 General Administrator's Report .....  
The Rev. David C. Hansley  
Recognition of Conference Moderators, New  
Churches and Missions  
Recognition of Fraternal Delegates  
10:00 Project Solution Task Force Report .....  
The Rev. C. H. Overman  
10:10 Nominating Committee Report ..... Dr. Graham Lane  
Chairman  
Floor Open for Nominations  
10:20 Church Finance Association Report .....  
The Rev. Donald Fader  
10:30 Congregation Singing ..... Music Director  
Special Music ..... King's Cross Roads Church  
10:40 Minister's Program Report .....  
The Rev. Donald Fader  
10:50 Children's Home Report ..... Dr. Bobby Taylor  
11:00 Break

*When the music begins,  
please return to your seats for the worship hour.*

- 11:15 A Presentation by Mount Olive College in recognition of their Fiftieth Anniversary

**Wednesday Afternoon Session**

- 1:15 Registration Re-opens  
1:30 Congregation Singing ..... Music Director  
Scripture and Prayer  
1:40 Cragmont Report ..... The Rev. John Williams  
1:50 Free Will Baptist International Report .....  
The Rev. Harold Jones

- 2:00 Free Will Baptist Press Report ..... Mr. Cliff Gray  
2:10 Home Missions and Evangelism Report .....  
The Rev. Al Markuson  
2:20 Break  
2:30 Mount Olive College Report ..... Dr. J. William Byrd  
2:40 Retirement Homes Report ..... The Rev. Bruce Dudley  
2:50 Sunday School Board Report ..... Mrs. Mary Dudley  
3:00 Benediction and Recess  
5:45 Sunday School Board Banquet in Murphy Center  
7:30 Wednesday Evening Mission Rally in College Hall

**Thursday Morning Worship Service  
9:00 AM, September 13, 2001**

- Prelude ..... Convention Musicians  
Invocation ..... The Rev. Buddy Sasser, *Worship Leader*  
Hymn  
Offertory Scripture and Prayer ..... The Rev. Al Warrick  
Offertory Presentation ..... Congregation  
Introduction of Speaker ..... The Rev. Buddy Sasser  
*Worship Leader*  
Special Music ..... Westside Church  
The Message ..... The Rev. Frank Harrison  
*Chaplain, Mount Olive College*  
Hymn of Dedication  
*A Time of Prayer for Our Country, Our Congregations and Our  
Convention, Led by President Leon Grubbs*

- 10:10 Break  
10:20 Congregation Singing ..... Music Director  
10:25 Chaplain's Commission Report .....  
The Rev. Adrian Grubbs  
10:30 Ministerial Association Report .....  
The Rev. Harold Swinson  
10:35 Woman's Auxiliary Report ..... Mrs. Joan Little  
*President*  
10:40 Carolina Bible Institute Report .... The Rev. Rudy Owen  
10:45 Camp Vandemere Report ..... The Rev. Owen Arthur  
10:50 Historical Commission Report ..... Dr. Michael Pelt  
10:55 League Convention Report ..... Ms. Becky Jo Sumner  
11:00 Layman's League Report ..... Mr. Elmer Harrell  
*President*

- 11:05 Report of Credentials Committee  
11:10 Break  
11:20 Report of Resolutions Committee .....  
The Rev. Gary Bailey, *Chairman*  
11:30 Memorial Service ..... Obituary Committee  
11:45 The Convention is Adjourned

*The Ninetieth Annual Session of the Convention  
of Original Free Will Baptists will be Announced.*



# August Is Heritage Month...

## for Original Free Will Baptists

### Purpose

To effectively know where we are going, we must understand from whence we have come.

To provide the opportunity for our people to reflect upon the importance of continuing ministry.

To show the connection between the congregation and the Convention.

To remind us all of our privilege and obligation to support the Church that we may continue our heritage.

To rekindle/revitalize our commitment of this ministry to the Church.

To participate financially in the maintenance of this ministry.



Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
3926 Lee Street • PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513  
(252) 746-4963 • FAX (252) 746-7993  
E-Mail ofwbconvhq@coastalnet.com

### Calendar of Events

Congregation Sunday—August 5

Covenant Sunday—August 12

Mission/Ministry Sunday—August 19

Heritage Sunday—August 26



## THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION GOLF FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, September 11, 2001 Southern Wayne Country Club, Mount Olive, NC

Four Man Superball • 12 Noon Shotgun Start • New This Year, 50 and over Senior Division

### Prizes and Surprises For Everyone

- Trophies awarded to first and second place team members in each division.
- Prizes for longest drive, highest score, and closest to the pin.

### Entrants Must Be:

- A member of an Original FWB Church or Sunday School or
- An employee of an Original FWB ministry or
- An Original FWB Minister or Spouse or
- A sponsor of this tournament.

*The tournament is limited to the first 22 teams to register. Your spot is not guaranteed until your entry fee has been received.*

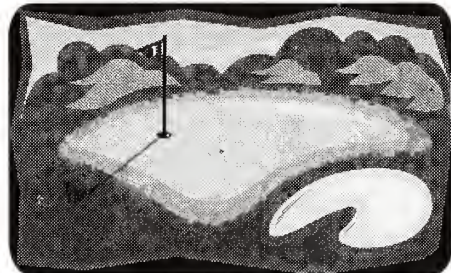
### Entry Fee

\$40 per player, Red Bombs—\$5.00 each (limit 2 per player) 1 Mulligan included, 1 extra Mulligan—\$5.00. \$55 buys the entire package.

*These may be purchased on Tournament day or be included in your entry fee. Please try to include your entire team's purchases when you register.*



☐ Check here if this is a Senior Division entry. **Note:** At least 3 team members must be 50 or older to compete in this division.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Entry Fees \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of Red Bombs \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of Mulligans \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Other Team Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form as soon as possible along with your check made payable to:

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

Buddy Sasser, Secretary

PO Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513-0039



# John C. Maxwell's TEAM Simulcast

September 15, 2001

8:00 AM —Registration/  
Admittance Begins

8:50 AM–9:00 AM —First Greeting

9:00 AM —Simulcast Begins—  
Session #1

11:00 AM —Session #2

12:30 PM —Lunch

2:00 PM —Session #3

3:20 PM —Session #4

4:00 PM —Simulcast  
Concludes

**J**ohn Maxwell will focus the simulcast training on influencing four different groups that are represented in your church:

**Committed Laity**—that they will gain a deeper understanding of their personal spiritual gifting and teamwork style and the “why” behind “what” they do each week. They will be challenged to add more value to their current Ministry Team by operating within their gifts more and adapting the Laws of Teamwork into their team.

**Fringe Laity**—they have been attending your church for years, yet are still not serving in a weekly ministry

in the church. By attending this seminar, they will learn the “why” and “how” of getting involved on a Ministry Team in your church. Many of these people want to be involved; they just do not know their gifts and don’t feel they have been trained. This is their chance!

**New Attendees**—these people have been coming to your church for a few months and have yet to make the membership commitment, much less the commitment of weekly service. This is our opportunity to show them what the fabric of your church is made of. By exposing them to this dynamic training, helping them as-

sess their spiritual gifts and teamwork style, and adding value to them—they will want to become involved in a church like yours.

**Youth Ministry**—The youth of your church, especially high school juniors and seniors, are well aware of how teams operate in their schools and in the professional sports arena; however, they may not see the relevancy of Ministry Teams in the church or how they can contribute their unique abilities and gifts that God has given them. This seminar will address your church’s youth and help your Youth Pastors develop effective leadership teams around them. ♦

*Sponsored by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and Mount Olive College  
Underwritten by The Barrow Endowment of Mount Olive College*



## Taylor Takes a Look Back at Mount Olive College

When Genevieve McLamb Taylor graduated from Smithfield High School in 1955, she was looking for a small Christian college that would provide opportunities for a good education and spiritual development. Her search led her to Mount Allen Junior College (now Mount Olive College) which had just relocated from Cragmont Assembly in Black Mountain to an abandoned elementary school building in Mount Olive.

A member of First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield, Genevieve was familiar with the College that had been founded by the Free Will Baptist denomination in 1951. Her pastor strongly promoted the institution and she knew the small Christian college was where she wanted to attend. Forty-five years later, as the institution prepares to celebrate its Fiftieth Anniversary, she is still in love with the dedicated, caring staff, and friendly atmosphere that she finds at Mount Olive College.

She remembers a campus quite different from the one now located on Henderson Street. The classes she attended were in a brick two-story building on Breazeale Avenue. Students did not live in residence halls; instead the ladies stayed in renovated rooms in the upstairs portion of the classroom building. The men stayed with families in the community. Chapel services were held in the auditorium. The College employed only nine professors. Less than 50 students made up the traditional student body, with an additional 20 to 30 students attending night classes.

Key events that occurred while she was at the College include the Free Will Baptist Convention voting to change the name from Mount Allen Junior College to Mount Olive Junior College in 1956 and her graduating class, the Class of '57, being the first to wear robes for graduation. She also recalls the College purchasing land for the new campus on Henderson Street.

Although the clubs and organizations on campus were not as numerous as

they are today, students were still able to participate in organizations such as Student Government Association, the yearbook staff, Science Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Athletics Council, Missionary Prayer Band, Future Teachers of America, the Free Will Baptist League, and the chorus. Athletic teams were not added until a few years later in the 1960s, but prior to this, students participated in intramural games of horseshoe, volleyball, basketball, softball, darts, and ping-pong.

After graduating from Mount Olive Junior College in 1957, she transferred to Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) where she received her bachelor of arts degree in secondary education. She received her master of education degree from the University of North Carolina in 1961.

"Mount Olive College provided me with a good foundation for further studies. As a result of the high expectations and quality of work required, I was very well prepared to face the challenges at other institutions. My time at Mount Olive made the transition to a larger school and university much easier," Genevieve said.

Genevieve taught school for a combined four years in Johnston, Wayne, and Greene Counties. She then went to work in the Central Office in Greene County where she has been employed for 36 years. She is currently employed as a testing coordinator with Greene County where her primary responsibilities are in the area of curriculum and instruction. She and her husband, Daniel, have two sons, Dan and Charles.

Now, over forty years later, Genevieve is still involved with Mount Olive College. She has served as secretary for the alumni board for two years and is currently a member of a special committee on the board. A member of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County, she has also been active with the Greene County Annual Church Dinner Program, where she has served as a local chairperson and as a county co-chair.

She has been a part of other major milestones for the College, such as in 1986 when she was invited to attend the Southern Association of



Genevieve McLamb Taylor Colleges and Schools Annual Meeting at which the College was named an accredited four-year institution. Genevieve states that her involvement in these College functions have enabled her to remain close to the institution and staff.

"By serving in these capacities, I have been able to give something back to the College in appreciation for what it provided me," Genevieve said. "I have seen the College build and develop the beautiful new campus. It has increased course offerings, added new facilities, expanded locations, and steadily increased the student body, but there are several things that have not changed—the Christian atmosphere, mission, the caring, dedicated staff, and the friendly student body."

She would like to see the College's student body continue to increase in number and see the College expand in its programs and facilities. She also hopes that the students will become more involved with the alumni association through the activities planned for the Fiftieth Anniversary.

Mount Olive College will celebrate 50 years of higher education during its Annual Founders Day Service on Saturday, November 17. The event will coincide with the College's Annual Alumni Weekend, which includes the Pickle Classic Basketball Tournament, alumni reunions, art exhibits, and performances by the Mount Olive College Singers and the Mount Olive College Concert Choir. Plans are also being made for food, entertainment, guest speakers, and special recognitions. ❖



## Alumna Returns to Work at Mount Olive College



**E**leanor B. Jones stated that when she graduated from Mount Olive College with an associate degree in 1982, she felt as though she was leaving home. Now, almost twenty years later, Eleanor has returned to the College as coordinator of church support services, where she assists Jean F. Ackiss, director of church support.

"As a student, I experienced the one-on-one relationships with my instructors and was very kindly treated by all staff members. When I learned of this job opportunity, I was excited. I had worked in the insurance world for 10 years and really loved it, but I felt the Lord was calling me to take this job and use it to do God's work," Eleanor said.

In addition to her degree from Mount Olive College, Eleanor also received a bachelor of science degree from Atlantic Christian College (Barton) in 1984. She was previously employed with Allstate Insurance Company as an office manager.

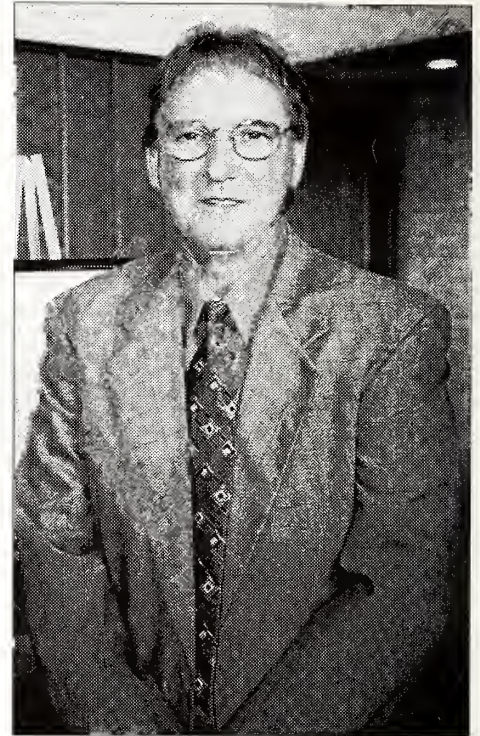
Eleanor is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis M. Beasley of Seven Springs. She and her husband, William, have two sons, Jesse and Bradley. Jones is a member of Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Wayne County, where she serves as the assistant Sunday school superintendent, assistant Sunday school teacher, and choir member. ♦

## Parker Inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda

**L**ynn C. Parker of Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC, was recently inducted as a charter member of Mount Olive College's Mu Omicron Chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda. The national honor society recognizes non-traditional students who have excelled in scholarship and leadership while pursuing higher education.

Lynn is the son of Annie Parker and is married to Lee Parker. He has previously attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was graduated from Mount Olive College in May, 2001.

Twenty-one students and eleven faculty members and administrators were inducted into the chapter. The honor society was first established at Northwestern University in 1946 and now has 287 active chapters at colleges and universities nationwide. ♦



## Students Attend Freshman Advising Day

**A**pproximately 180 students and parents attended freshman advising day at Mount Olive College on Friday, June 8. Pictured are a group of students, several Free Will Baptists, who were in attendance. Students met with faculty advisors and pre-registered for Fall 2001 classes. They also had the opportunity to learn about academic policies and student services, as

well as meet with future classmates and tour the campus. Parents who attended had the opportunity to speak with parents of current college students, and faculty and staff members.

Fall semester will begin on Wednesday, August 22 and openings are still available. Interested students may call the Office of Admissions at 919-658-2502 or 1-800-653-0854. ♦





## Planning Sessions Scheduled for MOC Dinners

**J**ean F. Ackiss, coordinator of the College dinners, has announced that the Planning Sessions for the 2001 college dinners will begin in August. The pastor, local chairperson of each church, and any other interested person is encouraged to attend the planning session in their county. Persons attending the planning session will be given up-to-date information on the College and final plans for the dinners will be made.

Mount Olive College was brought into existence by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists as a means of helping the church extend its ministry through Christian higher education. Through the dinners the unrestricted gift support from Free Will Baptists helps the College expand its services to the church, develop academic programs, and provide scholarships for worthy students.

Below is a schedule of the 18 Planning Sessions. ❖

### 2001 Mount Olive College Planning Sessions

**Greene County**—Thursday, August 9, 7:30 PM, Hull Road Church near Snow Hill.

**Beaufort County**—Friday, August 10, 7:30 PM, Memorial Church near Chocowinity.

**Nash County**—Sunday, August 12, 3:00 PM, Free Union near Spring Hope.

**Lenoir County**—Monday, August 13, 7:30 PM, First Church of Kinston.

**Edgecombe County**—Tuesday, August 14, 7:00 PM, Peace Church near Pinetops.

**Wayne County**—Thursday, August 16, 7:30 PM, First Church of Goldsboro.

**Onslow-Brunswick Counties**—Friday, August 17, 7:00 PM, Folkstone Church, Folkstone.

**Duplin County**—Monday, August 20, 7:30 PM, Cabin Church near Beaulaville.

**Pitt County**—Tuesday, August 21, 7:30 PM, Reedy Branch Church near Winterville.

**Craven County**—Thursday, August 23, 7:30 PM, Saint Mary's Church Administration Building, New Bern.

**Pee Dee Conference**—Friday, August 24, 7:30 PM, Beaverdam Church, Clarendon.

**Pamlico County**—Sunday, August 26, 3:00 PM, Rock of Zion Church, Grantsboro.

**Wilson County**—Monday, August 27, 7:30 PM, Daniel's Chapel Church near Wilson.

**Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, and Pasquotank Counties**—Tuesday, August 28, 7:30 PM, Mount Tabor Church near Creswell.

**Sampson, Harnett and Cumberland Counties**—Thursday, August 30, 7:30 PM, Oak Grove Church near Newton Grove.

**Carteret County**—Friday, August 31, 7:30 PM, Crab Point Church, Morehead City.

**Jones County**—Sunday, September 2, 3:00 PM, Pilgrim's Home Church near Dover.

**Johnston-Wake Counties**—Tuesday, September 4, 7:30 PM, First Church of Smithfield.

## Coming Events

**Fall Semester Classes** will begin on Wednesday, August 22. For more information about schedules or how you can register for classes, contact the Office of Admissions at (919) 658-2502.

**Fall Convocation** will be held in Rodgers Chapel on Tuesday, August 28 at 11:00 AM incoming freshman class will be recognized during the service as MOC begins its Anniversary Year. For more information, contact the Rev. Frank Harrison at (919) 658-2502 ext. 3082.

**The Women's Soccer Team** will have their season opener against St. Andrews College on Wednesday, August 29 at 4:00 PM. This will be a home game. For more information on this and other athletic events, contact Tina Parks, Office of Athletics, at 919-658-2502, ext. 3043.

**Men's Soccer Team's** season opener will be held at home on Thursday, August 30 against St. Andrews College at 4:00 PM. For more information, contact Tina Parks, Office of Athletics, at 919-658-2502, ext. 3043.

**The Women's Volleyball Team** will have a match against Barton College at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, August 29, at Barton. For more information, contact Tina Parks, Office of Athletics, at 919-658-2502, ext. 3043. ❖



*Right: Jean F. Ackiss, director of Church Support, reviews plans for the Greene County Dinner with Genevieve Taylor.*



## Fall Gospel Festival With Colors

**C**ragmont will host its first "Fall Gospel Festival With Colors" on October 21 - 24, 2001.

Fall is a ball at Dollywood. The beautiful colors of Fall in the Great Smoky Mountains set the stage for this spectacular outdoor production that combines music, crafts, fall food, and fun for everyone. There will be visiting craftspeople from across the nation showcasing and demonstrating their talents. Back by popular demand as part of this special fall festival is the Sixth Annual Southern Gospel Jubilee.

You will be enjoying the "Dove Brothers," "The Greenes," "Kingdom Heirs w/Dr. Jerry Goff," and "The Perrys."

This package includes admission to Dollywood (2 days), lodging at Cragmont, three breakfasts at Cragmont, and transportation to Cragmont and home again, as well as to Dollywood two days.

You get all of this for only \$200.00 per

person. There is a non-refundable (within 30 days prior to trip) deposit of \$100.00 due with your registration form.

The balance of \$100.00 per person will be due upon arrival at Cragmont.

Come join us for fun and great fellowship, music, and colors. ❖



### Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment: ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Fall Gospel Festival With Colors, Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

## June Women's Conference

**T**he 2001 June Woman's Conference began Monday night June 4, with the traditional reading of Psalm 121. Twenty-three women gathered to sing praises to our Lord under the direction of Alma Cox, song leader for the week. The joy of our music was enhanced by our pianist, Nina Grace Register. Jane C. Tripp led us in the morning Bible studies.

Each morning the campers were introduced to a "Woman of Inspiration" which provided lessons for Christian living.

Dressed in period costumes, Jane presented the lives of Ruth, Hannah, Esther, and Mary. For the second session each morning, Jane shared "How to Study the Bible for Yourself." An added treat this year came with May Pittman's devotions and information from her recent mission trip to the Philippines. In the evening, following music class, some of the campers gathered for a time of Bible self study and dis-



**Cragmont June Women's Conference  
June 4-9, 2001**

cussion led by Becky Jo Sumner. Six prayers from the Scriptures made up this study.

From the afternoon trips to Asheville to the excursion to Tennessee to enjoy the Dixie Stampede, a fun time was had by all. As usual the Rev. John Williams

and the Rev. Harold Jones challenged the ladies to fulfill the Woman's Auxiliary call to service and missions. As the ladies traveled eastward toward families and homes, they carried refreshed commitment to Christian service from their Cragmont experience. ❖



# "SURVIVOR" Cragmoor Youth Conference June 11 - 16, 2001



In only its third year, our newest camping week for ages nine to eighteen saw 176 campers and staff ascend the mountain for a week of "Survival" training.

Using the life of David as our guide, campers learned each day that they not

only could survive, but they could triumph and be victorious in every area of their daily living.

Camp days were filled with classes, music, worship, recreation, fun time together, and small group devotions. A trip to Dollywood and evening worship in

the Pavilion was enjoyed on Thursday.

The week saw the Lord bless through eight first-time commitments to Jesus Christ and thirty-four rededications. We descended the mountain victorious and better prepared to face whatever tomorrow may bring. ❖



We want to thank Grace Sawyer, Rhonda Jones and Sarah Jones for their volunteer help during the AFC week of camp. They worked in various areas but were always avail-

able to help with the meals. Again, we want to say a big thank you! ❖

*Above Left: Rhonda Jones and her daughter Sarah Jones doing dishes. Right: Grace Sawyer cleaning tables after a meal.*

## John's Want List

Passenger Golf Cart  
Wood Splitter  
New Office Printer

These are items not funded by our budget, but very much needed.



## The Hill Top Classic

If you like to play golf, we hope you will be interested in this trip. Two golf courses have been selected in the mountains within an hour's drive of Cragmont. Tentatively they are Blue Ridge Country Club at Linville and Grassy Creek Country Club at Spruce Pine.

You will drive to Cragmont on September 23. On Monday the 24, after

downing a famous Cragmont breakfast, we will strike out to play golf. After the day's round, you will come back to Cragmont for the evening meal. On Tuesday the 25, after breakfast, we will strike out for a different golf course and another 18 holes, returning to Cragmont for the evening meal. Entertainment is planned for



Monday and Tuesday evenings. Wednesday the 26 you make the trip home.

The total cost of the trip is \$160 per person. We have room for 80 golfers. The cost includes: breakfast Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, evening meal Monday and Tuesday, two rounds of golf, three nights lodging, and transportation to the golf course. On the two days we play golf, you will be responsible for lunch on the course.

To register for this event please fill out the form to your left and send it to Cragmont along with a \$50 deposit to secure your spot. Balance is due upon arrival. Master Card and Visa cards are accepted. ❖

✂

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711.

## NEW DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ARTICLES

Beginning with the September 2001 issue of *The Free Will Baptist*, news and articles submitted for publication must be received on or before the **fifth** of each month preceding the date of publication. (Articles for the September issue must be received by **August 5**.)

Although the new deadline is the fifth of each month preceding the month of publication, instead of the tenth, materials sent to us preceding the deadline would be most helpful in speeding up the process.

This new deadline is due to the change in our mailing date for *The Free Will Baptist*. Beginning with the September 2001 issue, the mailing will take place on Thursday before the last Sunday of each month, instead of Thursday after the last Sunday of each month.

Some individuals and churches have not been receiving *The Free Will Baptist* until well into the month after some events have already taken place. We believe this will help to solve that problem. Please continue to send us your news and articles. Let our people know what you are doing in your church or church group.—*The Editor*



## Layman's League



*Enjoying the meal*

### Central Conference Layman's Meeting

**T**he Central Conference Layman's League met June 4, 2001, at Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, NC, with an attendance of one hundred seventy-eight.

The meeting began in the fellowship hall where everyone enjoyed a delicious meal. Afterwards, everyone gathered in the sanctuary for the devotional message, singing, and the business meeting. ❖

#### *Gathering for Worship*



#### Dates to Remember

**August 13**—Executive and Promotional Board meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**August 20**—Eastern Conference Layman's League, Camp Vandemere. Meal, 6:45 PM, business, 7:30 PM.

**September 10**—Central Conference Layman's League, King's Cross Roads, Farmville, NC.

**October 8**—Executive and Promotional Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**November 12**—Executive and Promotional Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC.

**November 19**—Eastern Conference Layman's League (place to be announced).

**December 3**—Central Conference Layman's League, Rose Hill. Meal, 6:45 PM, Worship and business meeting, 7:30 PM.

**December 10**—Executive and Promotional Meeting, 7 PM, VFW building, Snow Hill, NC. ❖



*Right: Feeding program in Bulgaria.*

## Loving Children Around the World

by Harold Jones

Jesus said, "Suffer the little children and forbid them not to come unto me for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

The smile of a child is one of the most precious things on earth. But to see them abused, hungry, and in pain is heart-breaking. Unfortunately, there are hundreds of thousands of children worldwide who suffer daily.

Over the past few years, the Lord has opened our eyes and hearts to these children and given us opportunities to minister to them. This phase of the work of Foreign Missions is most gratifying. There is work among the Gypsy children in Bulgaria. It is a joy and privilege to love them and meet their needs to show Christ to them through action and deeds. They are taught, fed, and clothed in the name and love of Jesus Christ. This makes it easy for them to believe in Him.

The Lord placed in our care an orphanage in India that was about to close for lack of funds. There are twenty-five boys and one girl in this orphanage. The facilities do not compare with an orphanage here. The children sleep on the floor on their straw mat, they wash their own clothes at the hand pump, and help with the duties of the orphanage. In addition to this, there are elementary schools in India and Nepal where over 5,000 children are given a free education and learn about Jesus Christ. These

schools are just simple structures, but they are a real blessing to these children that would otherwise receive no education.

We just opened a home for street children in the Philippines. These are kids from ages



*Left: Ministering to Gypsy children in Bulgaria*

on a weekly basis in three different locations. They sing together, he teaches them about Christ, and then he feeds them.

We work with children in Mexico through vacation Bible school, Sunday school and outreach programs. It is a joy to see the light in their eyes as they hear the stories of Jesus.

No one can ever be wrong when they give to help a child. I believe that churches and individuals who care for children will be blessed abundantly.

God bless you richly for giving to make this ministry possible. ❖

9-11 that had spent years sleeping on the street, scrounging for food, and begging. Children like this are abused and unloved. This home provides a haven of rest and love for them, where their needs will be met and Christ will be made real to them.

We also have a feeding program in the Philippines. One of our pastors meets

*Left: Orphanage in Jamshedpur, India. Right: Ministering to children in Mexico through VBS.*







*Left: Community-based Feeding Program,  
Free Will Baptist Church, Deano, Bohol.  
Below: Elementary school in Nepal, India.*



*Below: Street children ministry in Cebu, Philip-  
pines. Bottom: Craft project for the youth.*



## Annual Convention Mission Rally

The Annual Convention Missions Rally will be held on September 11 at 7:30 PM in College Hall. Please plan to attend and pray about the amount the Lord would have you, as an individual or a church, to give.

The growth and financial stability of this ministry is directly related to your interest and faithful prayer and financial support.

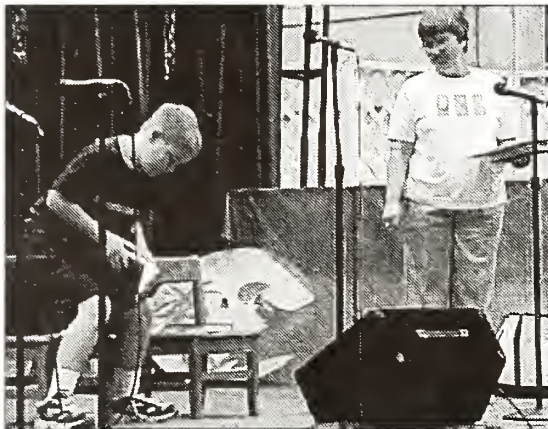
Thank you in advance for your generous response. I hope all of you can attend, but if you cannot, you can mail your special offering to Board of Foreign Missions, PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. You will still receive credit for the Rally offering.

**Remember:** You must earmark your check for Foreign Missions or place it in a special Foreign Missions envelope. These will be sent to every pastor and supplied at the Rally. ❖

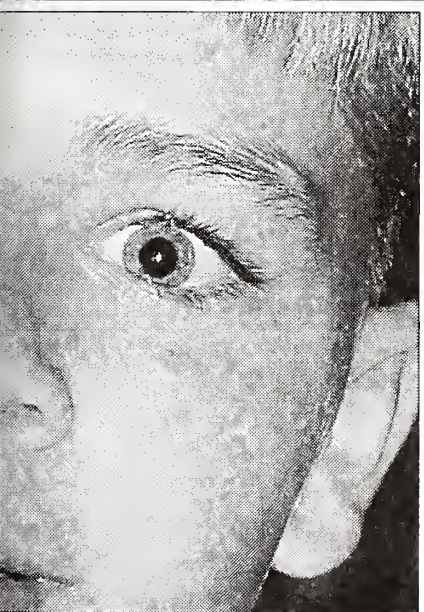
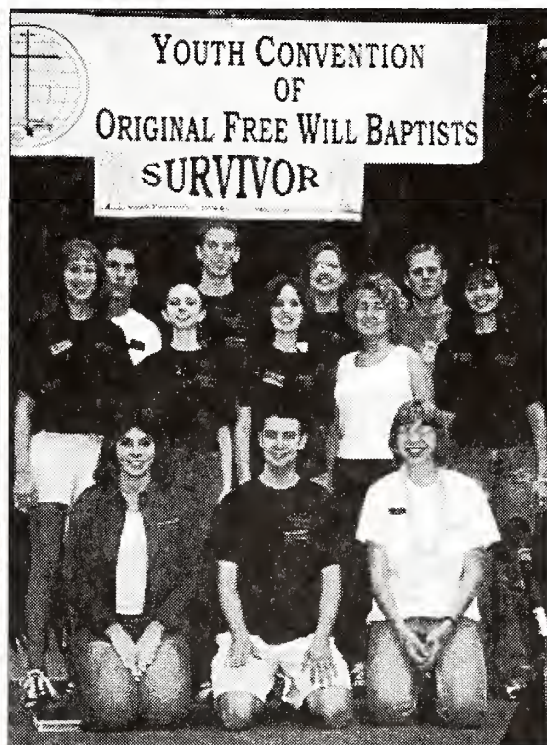




# Youth







# Convention 2001



# Eastern North Carolina Christian Education Training Conference

August 18, 2001 • 8:00 AM-4:00 PM  
New Bern Riverfront Convention Center  
New Bern, NC



## Keynote Address:

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, *General Administrator*, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

CEU Credit will be granted Day Care workers. Certificates will be available for \$1.00.

Exhibits will be open from 8:00AM-4:30 PM.

Please check workshop topics that are listed in the June, 2001, *The Free Will Baptist*, pages 24-25.



*Sponsored by Mid-Atlantic  
Christian Education Association*

## Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Coastal  
MACEA and mail with the re-  
gistration form to:

Mrs. Angel Lorton  
105 Ann Court  
New Bern, NC 28560

or

Mrs. Mary Dudley  
PO Box 39  
Ayden, NC 28513

No child care will be provided at the conference. Please mail registrations by August 6, 2001. Walk-ins are more than welcome. The workshop fee is \$20.00 (lunch included).

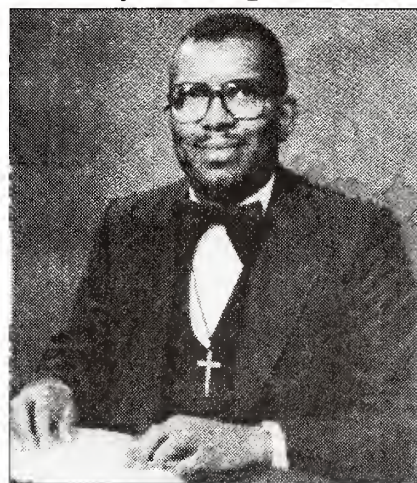


# **Announcing the Anniversary of Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School**

September 1941-September 2001  
60 Years of Continuous Service

Tuesday, September 11, 2001  
7:30 PM-8:45 PM  
College Hall, Mount Olive College

## **Keynote Speaker**



**Bishop L. N. Forbes**

Special Music by Kings  
Crossroads Church,  
Farmville, NC

Ice Cream Social After  
Service, Murphy Center

Sponsored by The Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry  
Mrs. Mary Dudley, Director





**T**he Free Union Free Will Baptist Senior Bible Class of Walstonburg, NC, visited our campus on May 19, bringing donations to help meet the needs of our cottages. Each were given a tour of

Heritage Hall and Genesis House Emergency Shelter, which the girls loved. This group proved that even rain couldn't stop them. Thanks again. ❖



**O**n June 26, members of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, NC, stopped by to leave needed donations for our campus. Thanks again! ❖

*Left: L to R, Kathleen Radford and Velma Sullivan.*

**M**embers of Warsaw Free Will Baptist Church, Warsaw, NC, stopped by June 11 to deliver needed patio swings and a wooden glider. Thank you for your generosity. ❖

*Right: L to R, Lester Anderson, Allen Benson, Lester Gurley, and Mildred Gurley.*



*Remember To  
Mark Your  
Calendars:*

*Friends of  
Children Day  
Saturday,  
November 10,  
2001  
12:00 Noon*

**Whitley Center**



**O**n June 7, 2001, the Rev. Everett V. Harper (right), Founder and President of Renewed Vision Ministries, International, Inc., presented the Children's Home resident, Cristina Hernandez (left) with a certificate awarding her a \$500.00 scholarship.



Renewed Vision Ministries, International, Inc., Washington, NC, began in April 1999 to minister to the needs of individuals less fortunate at home or abroad and to proclaim the gospel in song, testimony, and the preaching of God's Word. Renewed Vision Ministry is non-profit and totally funded by donations and revenue from witness items made available on a suggested donation basis.

Cristina plans to attend Beaufort County Community College in the fall.

A special thanks to Renewed Vision Ministries and to the Rev. Everett Harper for following his vision and helping to supply the needs of God's children. ❖



**M**embers of Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, Cove City, NC, visited our campus on June 26, bearing beautiful table arrangements for

each of our cottages. Each member enjoyed touring our campus. Thanks again ladies for being unique and for brightening each of our cottages. ❖

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Desk Lamps
- ☐ Large Electric Griddles
- ☐ Large Electric Fry Pans
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games
- ☐ 8 oz. Plastic Glasses
- ☐ Mechanical Pencils  
(no lead pencils needed)
- ☐ Board Games (*Bible Bingo, Girl Talk, Operation, Battleship*)
- ☐ Adult Size Bookbags
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Various Types Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Pole Lamps
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD Rom Encyclopedia
- ☐ Pots and Pans
- ☐ Pillows
- ☐ Sets of Silverware (8 pc setting)
- ☐ Cordless Telephones
- ☐ Binders, 1/2", 1", and 2"



## Living Faith Mission/Church Profile, Landis, North Carolina

*Missionary: The Rev. Wayne Watson*

**May 2000:** Missionary Wayne Watson and a small group of believers have their first meeting at the Wingate Inn Conference Room in Mooresville, North Carolina. The group continues to meet weekly at the Wingate Inn. They begin to pray for a location that would enable more people to attend.

**July 2000:** Services are moved to the Chapel at Neill Funeral Home, which was provided to the group at no charge. The group continues to reach out into the community and are praying for growth and the Lord's direction.

**August–September 2000:** A separate small group of believers were meeting at a church facility in Landis (near Kannapolis). This group, called "Living Faith" had an option to buy the facility. Their group, once larger, now was smaller and without a pastor, so Missionary Wayne Watson began helping this group on Sunday afternoons. They then expressed an interest in becoming a part of our Home Missions program. After much prayer, discussion, and sharing, the two groups (the group meeting at the church facility in Landis and our group meeting at the Chapel at Neill Funeral Home) decided to merge and become one larger group, which would enable them to grow enough to continue with the purchase of the property and church facility at Landis. After proper evaluation, the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism approved the merger of these groups and the

purchase of the church facility in Landis.

**November 2000:** Landis property purchased for \$200,000, although appraised at \$353,000, and the mission/church continues to grow.

**January–May 200:** The attendance has continued to grow from 30 to a high of 85. New people are visiting the mission every week. Living Faith has expanded their worship schedule to include Sunday evening and Wednesday evening services.

After training and guidance from the Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Board, the mission/church launched their Sunday School Program on the first Sun-



*Above: L to R Dr. Tom Parish, pastor of Elwood Lane Church, baptismal candidates, the Revs. Mark White and Wayne Watson.*

day in March with 40 in attendance. Many individuals and churches helped the mission by supplying needed items for the Sunday School. The blessings have continued with a recent baptism of 5 individuals. This event was held at our sister church, Elwood Lane, in Kannapolis.

In April, Living Faith Mission/Church was organized and received into the fellowship of the Piedmont conference.

Living Faith Mission/Church represents the very essence of what Home Missions and Evangelism ministry is about. People having their lives touched by some-



*Above: Youth Sunday school class with teacher, Brother Marty.*

one's praying, caring, and sharing. From a young adult couple with their newborn son to a dear senior lady, age 96, and others of all ages having their lives influenced for the Lord Jesus Christ.

We thank God for the tremendous progress Living Faith has made in this past year. It is because Original Free Will Baptist people are standing behind the ministry of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism by praying, caring, and sharing that we can bring such a good report to your attention.

Please note that Home Missionary, Wayne Watson, will be the keynote speaker at our Annual Missions Rally on September 12, 2001. Mark your calendar now and plan to participate in this great annual rally with your prayers, presence, and presentation of the largest offering possible. ❖



*Above: David and Debbie Lazenby with son Kevin Douglas.*



*Below: Response to the invitation during Sunday worship service held in fellowship hall.*



# Missions Rally



September 12, 2001 • 7:30 PM  
College Hall, Mount Olive College



**Missionary Speaker,** The Rev. Wayne Watson, *Home Missionary-Church Planter Director/Pastor of Living Faith Mission/Church, Landis, NC*

**W**ayne shows clearly his burden for the unsaved and uncared for everywhere he goes. This burden is coupled with a vision for Original Free Will Baptists — to reach out to untouched communities with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

His missionary service began with the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism in Charlotte, North Carolina from 1973 - 1978. His pastoral ministry continued at Elwood Lane Original Free Will Baptist Church in Kannapolis, North Carolina from 1978 - 1994, and First Original Free Will Baptist Church, Williamston, North Carolina prior to returning to missionary service in May 1999.

Wayne has always exhibited a burden and love for home front missions during his entire ministry. He is currently serving as a Church Planter and Director/Pastor for the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism at Living Faith Mission/Church in Landis, North Carolina.

Living Faith Mission is a very vibrant and growing new work for Original Free Will Baptists.

**Why not move your Wednesday evening service to College Hall and participate in this great rally!**

**Special Offering:** Your special offering at this Missions Rally is vital for Home and Foreign Missions for the continued growth of your missions program. Begin to pray NOW and ask God what your contribution should be this year.

*Program presented by the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism*



## Camp Vandemere

### Our Spiritual Life Retreat

by Owen Arthur

Camp Vandemere has lost one of its faithful supporters, the Rev. Ralph Sumner. He supported the camp in every way, giving of his time unselfishly, his resources, and he gave through prayer. Through the years, Ralph has had some type of involvement with the camp, serving as its manager for many years until his health forced him to retire.

Even then he didn't cease his involvement with the camp; he took on the role as a director, and was appointed a member of the board for life. To sum it up, Ralph Sumner loved Camp Vandemere. He will be missed but certainly not forgotten.

Several years ago, Ralph and Janie saw the need to establish an endowment fund. If you would like to honor his memory, you may add to this fund by sending your contribution to Judith Kennedy, 933-N N.C. 41 Pink Hill, N.C. 28572. Please earmark your contribution for the Sumner Endowment Fund.

There have been some very good times at the camp already this summer. Back in the spring, the camp started with a weekend retreat that set the stage for a great summer. Memorial weekend started with the Young People's Mission Retreat, a busy time for Ray and Ginny Conner, yet a prosperous time for our Lord. This was followed by a week with our friends from Tabernacle Baptist Church from New Bern. Next came the Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat, which was just wonderful. You read about this in the July issue of the *Free Will Baptist*. Those who missed this weekend really missed a spiritual blessing. I am looking forward to next year's retreat already, which will be the same weekend and same place. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. The apple and peach pies with ice cream on Friday night were very tasty, thanks to

Lynda. I understand that the ladies had a busy time but an enjoyable one during their week at the camp. There have been other weeks that also have been productive.

Some more good news is that our new in-ground swimming pool is open. Af-



ter several delays, much prayer, and many headaches, we finally got it ready. Those who come to the camp for a retreat, or a week of camp, or just to spend the day will enjoy the pool. If you haven't made reservations for your trip to the camp, I encourage you to call Mike and schedule it. You have heard the expression "time flies" and we all are so busy that if you aren't careful time will pass without you having the opportunity to come to the camp.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 18, for our fifth annual "Singing by the River." This is our all-day singing at the camp under the big tent. We will have many of your favorite groups again this year. As an added attraction this year, we will be having a Blue Grass Gospel group. Several have asked us to do this and we are pleased to meet your request. The groups par-

ticipating this year are: The Four in Christ, Second Edition, Servants Heart, Covenant, and New River Gospel. Our plans are to have drinks, hot dogs, hamburgers, or fish plates available during the singing. The admission is free, but we will receive a free-will offering. If you have any questions about the day's activities, feel free to call Mike at the camp at 252-745-3171.

The camp is looking forward to hosting the Eastern Conference Layman's League on Monday, August 20. The meal will be provided by the camp and will start at 6:45 PM with the business meeting starting at 7:30 PM. Let me encourage all our layman to make plans to attend.

Camp Vandemere is available to all our churches for seminars and other related events. During the women's week, something was mentioned about the possibility for several churches to conduct their study courses together. The camp would be very happy to host events such as this. We would like to see the camp utilized year round since we have heat as well as air conditioning.

Thank you for all your prayers as well as financial support. Continue to pray for us, and come see how God has poured out his blessings on our camp. ❖

### Bookstore Display MACEA Conference

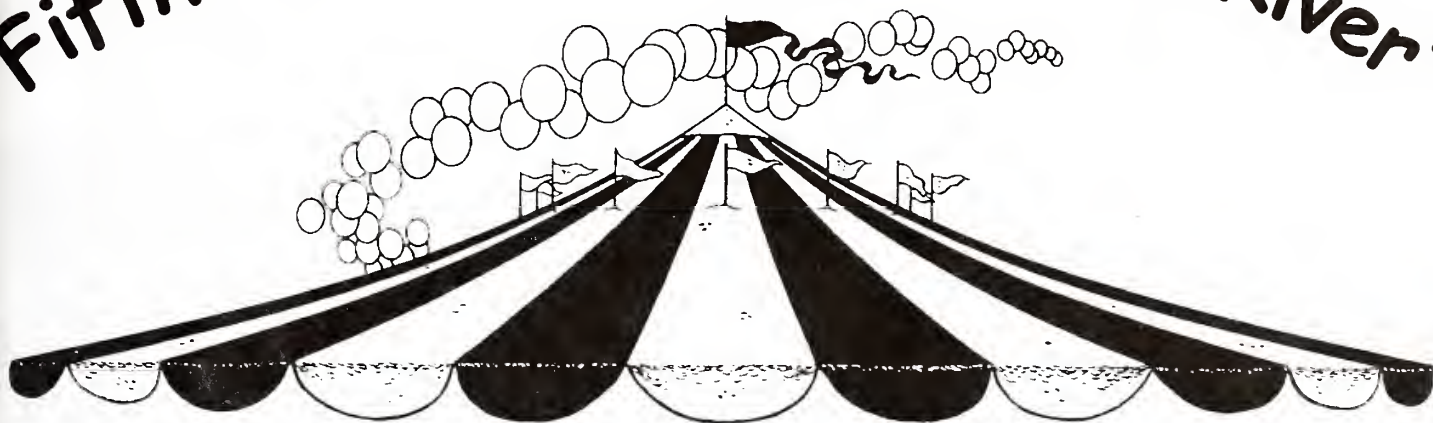
While attending the MACEA Conference on August 18, 2001, New Bern, NC, be sure to "drop by" the Free Will Baptist Book Store display where you will find Sunday school literature, teacher aides, classroom supplies and Bibles, etc. ❖

"Send out thy light and truth..." Psalm 43:3





# Camp Vandemere's Fifth Annual "Singing By The River"



**Under the Big Tent—Rain or Shine!**

**Saturday, August 18, 2001 9:30 AM Until**

**Featuring:**

*New River Gospel  
Servant's Heart*

*Second Edition  
The Four In Christ  
Covenant*

Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome. Old fashioned Gospel singin'. Food, fun, and fellowship.

Camping facilities are available. Children's activities include swimming, volleyball, games, and more.

Fish plates, hot dogs, hamburgers, and concessions will be available.

Camp Vandemere is a Christian, family-oriented campground owned by the Eastern Conference of Original

Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. Our mission is to reach people for the Lord. We invite and encourage everyone to visit us.

A love offering will be received, and all proceeds will benefit the camp.

Camp Vandemere is located at 215 Third Street, Vandemere, NC 28587.

Directions from the New Bern/Bridgeton area, take Hwy. 304 to Bayboro; then Hwy. 307 to Vandemere.

**For more information, call (252)745-3171**



## VBS at Little Creek

Flashing lights, horns blaring, and sirens sounding all were signals that Vacation Bible School had come to Little Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, NC. "Jesus to the Rescue" was our theme from June 24-27 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM each night.

Forty different children learned all about real life rescues while listening to and watching Bible stories come to life.

Sunday night began with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, taught by Cindy McLawhorn and a visit from Scuffleton VFD with Chief Johnny McLawhorn.

Monday continued with the story of Ruth and Naomi told by Anne Moore, and also included a visit from Sheriff Lemmie Smith and Deputy Jason from the Greene County Sheriff's Department. All children were finger printed.



*Above: Crafts Helpers—Donald Stokes and Pat Adams.*

Tuesday night we learned about Elijah the prophet taught by Evelyn Taylor and assisted by Morgan and Etta Taylor. We also had a visit from one of the Greenville Police Department's finest, Lt. Thomas Forrest.

Wednesday night was our final Bible

*Right: Shadrach—Cindy, Jessica, Taylor, Abigail, Ryder. Below: Ruth—Anne Moore. Below Right: Bible School Group.*

rescues. A huge thank you goes out to all who helped and all who attended. "Jesus to the Rescue" as usual in all our lives. "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

*Below: Group at Scuffleton Fire Truck.*





# Oak Grove News and Events

by Willa Dean Daughtry

The membership of Oak Grove Church, Newton Grove, NC, shares a commitment to care for the beauty of the earth and to keep the road-sides of our community clean. The warm weather we have experienced recently has given us the opportunity to don our orange vests and do some spring cleaning. The Adopt-A-Highway Program is an excellent venue for the church to become involved in community service.

On May 13, 2001, the men of our church prepared breakfast for the entire congregation in honor of the mothers.

The food and fellowship were wonderful. A special thanks goes to the men for all their effort that made this a

very special occasion.

On June 3, 2001, Oak Grove had the honor of hosting the ordination service of our pastor, Roger Hill. The Cape Fear Conference Ordination Council, composed of Fred Baker, Chairman, the Revs. Roy Clifton, Sam Weeks, Frank Harrison, and Phillip Boykin, participated in this beautiful and inspiring service. Music was provided by the choir and the Smith family of Clayton.

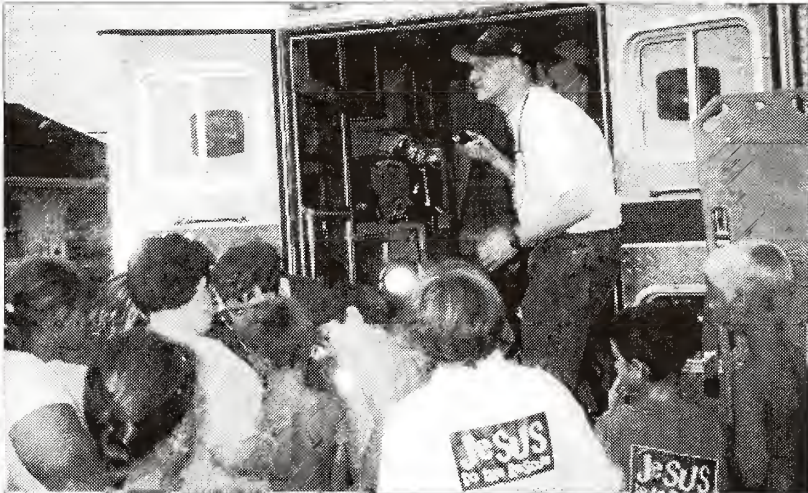
Right : The Rev. and Mrs. Roger Hill and son.



Following the service, a meal was served in the fellowship hall. Mrs. Zona Holland chaired the hospitality committee. The church commends her and all those that prepared food for the time and effort they expended to make this a memorable success.

Vacation Bible school began on June 17, 2001, with an ice cream social to honor the fathers. Our theme for this year was "Jesus to the Rescue." This theme provided an opportunity to acquaint the students with the work of our law enforce-

Below Left: Oak Grove Adopt-A-Highway Program.



Above: Oak Grove VBS visited by Vann Crossroads Fire and Rescue Departments.

ment officers, the local fire department, and the rescue squad.

Most important were the spiritual values taught. Our directors, Rhonda West and Wanda West, gave countless hours of preparation. Their efforts were rewarded with excellent attendance, good collections for missions, and many useful items donated for our local crisis center. Vacation Bible school proved to be a good tool for our outreach program. ❖

## Special Notice

For the first time since November of 1995, there will be an increase in the subscription rate for *The Free Will Baptist*, as follows:

- Yearly rate: \$12.72 (tax included)
- Bundle Plan: \$6.36 (tax included)  
(minimum of 25 copies per bundle)
- Every Family Plan: \$9.54 (tax included)

These rates will become effective in September 2001. The increase is necessary due to the rising cost of production. We wish to thank all our subscribers for your continued support. We will continue to serve our denomination through the pages of *The Free Will Baptist*. ❖

### Annual Labor Day Sale And Bazaar

**Date:** Saturday, September 1; and Monday, September 3  
**Time:** Begins at 8:00 AM and ends at 3:00 PM each day  
**Place:** Intersection of Hwy 39 and Hwy 231 (Emit)  
(Five miles south of Five-County Mudcat Stadium)

We will have our famous "hotdogs" for sale; \$1.50 buys a hotdog and a drink. There will also be lots of homemade pies, cakes, and goodies. An assortment of homemade crafts and canned goods will also be available. Please join us for a day of fun and fellowship.

*Sponsored by Friendship Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary*



## Back to School

by Rita Jones

**T**his month, we send our younger members back to school. It's been a short but a busy summer, especially for the young people at Powhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, NC. Twenty-four members attended the Youth Rally at Faith Church in Four Oaks on Saturday, June 2, receiving the banner for Youth Attendance. After participating in the Johnston County Relay for Life the night before, this was really a great number going. There were 110 that registered as they arrived at the rally with over half that number being youth. The group, "Disciples Forever," of Branch Chapel in Kenly presented the program.

On June 3, Powhatan joined with Oak Grove for evening services to celebrate the ordination of Roger Hill. Roger grew up at Powhatan and was our pianist most of his life until he received the call to the ministry. We pray for blessings to follow as he, his wife Ginger, and son Spencer

continue to work for the Lord at Oak Grove Church.

Congratulations to Oak Grove for receiving the Overall Runner-Up Banner at



the June Rally.

Saturday, June 9, was the Free Will Baptist Youth Day at King's Dominion. Seventeen from Powhatan enjoyed the day (except for the flat tire on the drive up).

Ten campers were "survivors" of the June 11-16 week at Cragmont with Bryant Hines and Craig Simmons. Attending with our group were Gregory Bass, Nicole Lee, Kelsey Coats, Summer Davis, Sarah Vaughn (guest), Brian Tant, Roberta Widhalm, Nikki Jones, Crystal Guy, and Sarah Barbour.

Four of our YFA's went back the week

of June 25-30 for the YFA only week with Janie Sowers. They got off to a late start due to the bus breaking down in Selma, but had a great week. We thank the di-

rectors, counselors, and volunteers who provide the Christian camp experience for our youth members each summer.

On Father's Day, J.C. Blinson, Phillip James, and Alan Price each received a gift for being the oldest fa-

ther (89), youngest father (27), and father with the most children present with him (4) respectively. All fathers received some candy when they left church to enjoy or share with their families.

We thank Jason Sherman of Branch Chapel Church who visited with us and shared a Sunday morning message on June 24 during our pastor's vacation.

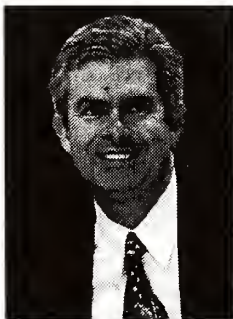
In Memoriam: Becky Venable, wife of former Powhatan pastor Don Venable, went to be with the Lord on June 28. Please remember Rev. Don and his family during this time of loss. ❖

## Free Union Church Honors New Pastors

**F**ree Union Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, NC, honored their

new pastors, Dr. David Hines, Senior Pastor and the Rev. Todd Sutton, Associate Pastor, with a "Welcome Celebration" on March 11, 2001. Dr. Hines and Rev. Sutton began their work at the church on January 1, 2001. The church welcomed the pastors at a special morning worship service followed by a meal in the fellowship building.

Dr. Hines, senior pastor, (above) is in charge of the Sunday worship services, music, church planning, and development. Rev. Sutton, serves as a full-time associate pastor with primary responsibilities of youth ministries, Bible studies,



visitation, newsletters, and daily church ministries. This is Free Union Church's first youth minister.

Dr. Hines is a graduate of Mount Olive College, received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion and Philosophy at Barton College (formerly Atlantic Christian College), and a Master of Divinity Degree with concentration in Greek and Hebrew from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. In 1989, he received his Doctor of Ministry Degree with emphasis in Church Growth and Evangelism from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC.

Dr. Hines has served as pastor of New Sandy Hill Church, Bailey, and Kinston First Church, and interim pastor for several churches. He is a member of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists Ordaining Council. Since 1986, Dr. Hines has been associated with Mount Ol-

ive College and is chairman of the Religion Department and Director of Education for Christian Ministries.



Dr. Hines, his wife, Teresa, and daughter, Ashley, reside in Mount Olive.

Rev. Sutton (left) received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Church Ministries from Mount Olive College in 1998. He has served as pastor of Free Union Church, Spring Hope, May's Chapel Church, Dudley, and Rains Crossroad, Kenly.

Rev. Sutton, his wife, Selena, and daughter, Laurie, reside in Snow Hill.

Free Union Church is blessed to have the leadership of Dr. Hines and Rev. Sutton. ❖



## Pleasant Hill Church on Rescue Mission

**T**he children of Pleasant Hill Original Free Will Baptist Church, Grimesland, NC, received lots of information on how to rescue people who don't know Jesus as their Savior during the week of June 17-21 while attending vacation Bible school. They learned about how God came to the rescue of many people in the Bible and how He is still coming to the rescue of people today.

On Sunday, June 17, to get things rolling, the Gardnerville Volunteer Fire Department came with their fire truck to let the children get a close-up look of some of the equipment used in rescuing people from fires, automobile accidents, and other dangerous situations. The children were excited as they climbed on board the truck, blew the siren, and sprayed water from the powerful water hoses!

There were guest speakers each night, including Noah, Elijah, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, Esther, and Mary Magdalene. The children were enthralled as each speaker presented the story of how God had come to his or her rescue and told them how He is still rescuing people today through the shed blood of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Each night our friend, Ever Ready (ER for short) showed the children how they should handle different situations that could come up at school or church or visiting with friends.

The prayers each night were given by the children in thanks for our VBS, for the food they ate, and for the offerings of money to be given to the Foreign Missions Team, in an effort to help spread God's Word to people all over the world.

The children sang great new songs, worked with crafts, and completed their workbooks.

All in all the children, as well as the adults at VBS this year were excited and learned so much about God's wonderful love for us all. ❖

*Pictured below: Left—Children climb on board the fire truck. Right—Queen Esther telling her "rescue" story. Bottom: Left—Kindergarten students putting animals in the ark. Right—Teens concentrating on one of their craft projects.*





## NC Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

**T**he seventy-fourth annual session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists was held on May 10, 2001 at Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Dunn, NC, and hosted by the Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary.

The theme was "Taking Jesus With You," with Scripture taken from John 20:15. The president, Joan Little, called the meeting to order and shared some challenging remarks. The president opened the business session and welcomed everyone to the Convention. There was a total of 150 in attendance.

The Life Membership Award was presented to Deborah King of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, NC, by Becky Jo Sumner and Dianne Riley on behalf of the Convention.

Various members of the Youth Convention led the entire program. Devotions was presented by Sarah Jones, YFA District Winner in Public Speaking; Charles Godwin, State Youth President, along with April and Heather McPherson, (Pee Dee District Officers) presented the Memorial Service; and the message was given by Amanda Keel, President of the Albemarle Youth Convention. They did a super job. We are proud of our youth and those who work with them.

The Denominational Ministries had the following representatives present: Foreign Missions, the Rev. Harold Jones; the Rev. Fred Baker, Convention of

Original Free Will Baptists Board gave interesting highlights from The Free Will Baptist Press, the Children's Home, and



will be held on May 9, 2002 at Mount Olive College. There was a special planning committee meeting during the morning session of the Executive Committee Meeting on June 2, 2001 at Mount Olive College to begin organizing the responsibilities of each district in order to make this an exciting and memorable convention.

Carolyn Jernigan presented the needs of the Rodgers Chapel renovation project. She challenged each auxiliary to give \$1,000 this year.

Tina Mann announced that the first annual "Youth Leader Appreciation Day" will be Sunday, August 5. This will continue to be held in the local churches on the first Sunday of August.

The Resolutions Committee gave their report and the meeting closed with a benediction and blessing of the food. The host church served a delicious meal. Truly this was a great day of rejoicing for all that God has done in and through His servants. ❖

*Above Left: Wayne and Deborah King, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Hines. Below Left: Officers of the Convention.*

Retirement Homes.

The following reports were given: Finance and Treasurer, Credentials, Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund and Youth. Sandra Jones. Recording Secretary, reported that all seven districts had reported. The following auxiliaries were A-1: Cape Fear—Lanwood Chapel, Oak Grove, Palmer Memorial, Powhatan, Roberts's Grove, Shady Grove, and Tee's Chapel; Eastern—Folkstone, Kinston, First, Northeast, and Whaley's Chapel; Pee Dee—Cypress Creek and Oak Grove; Western—Kenly, Piney Grove, and Rock Springs.

There was no old business reported.

The Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the North Carolina woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

## First Union Western Conference

*by The Rev. Lewis Godwin*

The First Union of the Western Conference met on April 28, 2001 and elected new officers as follows:

Moderator, the Rev. Braxton Carter, 103 Alpine Way, Clayton, NC 27520, home phone 919-553-7246; Assistant Moderator, the Rev. Lloyd Hargis, PO Box 625, Clayton, NC 27520, home phone 919-553-6800; Clerk/Treasurer, the Rev. Lewis Godwin, 120 Hilltop Drive, Four Oaks, NC 27524, home phone 919-938-1568; Assistant Clerk/Treasurer, the Rev. Clifford B. Harwood, Jr., 109 Steward Ave., Pikeville, NC, home phone 919-242-6218. ❖



# Westside Church Woman's Auxiliary Nominates Lovick for Woman of the Year

**R**achel W. Lovick is a member of Westside Original Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC. She hasn't been with us at Westside but a few years.

Rachel was born and reared in Greenville, SC, and received her education in Music at Furman University in Greenville, SC.

In 1957, she became the wife of a Baptist minister, the Rev. Bruce Walker. With Rachel as his helpmate, he pastored several churches in North and South Carolina and one in Georgia.

They were blessed with three children: daughter Karen, of Fort Mill, SC; and two sons, Scott and Alan of Atlanta, GA.

In 1987, at the time of her husband's death, he was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, NC, where she continued to worship and serve until she came to Westside.

At Calvary Baptist, she served in numerous capacities: 1979, Leader of Acteens; 1980-1984 Leader and Director of Acteens; 1981 - College and Career Assistant Sunday School teacher; 1982-1987 - Assistant Church Pianist/Director of Younger Children's Sunday School Department; 1990 - WMU Mission Study Director; 1990-1993 - Assistant Church Organist; 1992 - Baptists' Women Mission Support Director. She also sang in the choir and was active in church dramas.

During her husband's pastorate at Central Baptist Church in Hickory, she was Acteens leader, made several mission trips with the youth, and served as youth choir director and church pianist. While in Hickory, she was director of the Sweet Adeline's Women's Chorus.

Rachel has always been active in the music ministry, Sunday school, and missions organizations in the church. While in Rocky Mount, she was a music teacher at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church Day Care.

Rachel worked at Sprint from 1988 until her retirement in 1998. There she was a Directory Assistance Operator and Instructor for new employees.

She met Mac Lovick from Kinston through friends that knew them both. They were married on May 1, 1993. She

moved to Kinston after her retirement, but moved her membership to Westside from Calvary Baptist shortly after her marriage.

Rachel made the following statement when she became a member of Westside, "I look forward to my retirement, so I can be here and be able to serve in this church," which she so ably does.

Rachel is a member of the choir, pianist and assistant organist. She will teach a Sunday school or vacation Bible school class when asked. She is Program Prayer Chairman for our Ladies' Auxiliary and Secretary of the Lenoir County Sunday School Fellowship. She recently served on the Pulpit Search Committee.

Her community activities include:

President of the Lions' Club Auxiliary and volunteer for the library at Northwest School. She has written an article for the Master Gardener's Club that was published in the *Kinston Daily Free Press*, and is a member of the Master Gardener's Club.

She has compiled family trees for descendants of her mother and father, Roy and Hallie Grant, who still live in Greenville, SC.

Rachel loves God with all her heart and always shows her love for Him in her willing attitude of service.

She is a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, stepmother and step-grandmother, and friend. Rachel truly blesses the lives of our people at Westside and all who know her. ❖

## Churches & Ministers Available

*NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)*

**New Bethlehem Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Grantsboro, NC, is also seeking a full-time pastor. This church is committed to having three services per week, has a solid nucleus of young people and young couples, mixed with faithful senior citizens. Contact may be made to Frank Owen, 252-745-5449.

**Mr. Alan Price**—a member of Powhatan Original Free Will Baptist Church, has been approved as a lay speaker by the Board of Ordination of the Cape Fear Conference. He may be contacted by phone at 919-553-1308, or 4203 Little Creek Church Road, Clayton, NC 27520.

**Unity Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Wilson, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested, please send to, or call, the following: Charles Rogers, PO Box 241, Kenly, NC 27542, or Wayne Lamm, 2515

McNair Street, Wilson, NC 27893, phone 252-237-2452.

**Reedy Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Winterville, NC, is seeking a part-time youth minister. Any interested person is asked to contact the Rev. Philip Wood, (252) 756-3416, or Libby Williams, (252) 355-6255.

**Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church**—6204 Lake Road, Elm City, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested, please contact Donald Webb at 7257 Gardners School Road, Stantonsburg, NC 27883 or 252-238-2271.

**Black Jack Original Free Will Baptist Church**—is seeking a new pastor. The church is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Greenville, NC in Pitt County. The church has a congregation of approximately 600 members. Only presently ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers need apply. Interested applicants should contact Benjie Forrest at 2293 Sis Mills Road, Grimesland, NC 27837 or call after 6:00 pm (252) 758-5328. You may e-mail me at pforrest@nowait.net. ❖



*Right: The firetruck was a popular display with Howell Swamp Church youth.*

## Howell Swamp Church Forms Search Parties

**E**mergency volunteers at Howell Swamp Church, Walstonburg, NC, formed search parties to retrieve lost souls for Jesus Christ during the 2001 vacation Bible school. The church kicked off the 2001 VBS on Sunday, June 10, with a weiner roast and some very special visitors who reinforced this year's theme "Jesus to the Rescue." The Walstonburg Fire and Rescue Departments displayed firetrucks and rescue squads on the church lawn. Children were encouraged to climb aboard the vehicles and ex-



plore. Greene County Sheriff Lemmie Smith "deputized" several youngsters for service. Afterwards, the entire congregation met in the sanctuary or "com-

mand center" for nightly instructions by Ever Ready (E.R).

This year's VBS was truly a blessing to everyone who attended. ❖

## Beaverdam YFA Summer Projects

*by Susie Fairfax*

**E**ach summer the YFA of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church, Clarendon, NC, raises money for their treasury, as well as provide a community service by mowing and keeping tidy the McPherson Cemetery.

This year, the youth members placed flags at the gravesites of veterans for Memorial Day in remembrance and honor of their military service to our country. It was a touching sight as family members of the veterans expressed gratitude.

The YFA members honored the fathers of our church with a small gift and a special program on Father's Day. Recognition was given to some "distinguished fathers" of our church...the deacons, elders, male youth leaders and pastor. They set before us examples of love, dedication, sacrifice and service as Christian fathers. The oldest father

in the congregation was recognized as well. We thank God for our fathers.

The YFA is planning a trip to see the outdoor drama, "Worthy is the Lamb" later this summer. ❖

*Right: YFA earn money maintaining cemetery. Below: YFA members honored fathers with a special program on Father's Day.*







## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Dr. Pepper Worthington

**L**ooking for an easy read

with a human interest appeal, a regional location, and religious strength? Nicholas Sparks of New Bern brings us his story of seventeen-year-old Landon Carter who is now fifty-seven years old and remembering the defining year of his youth. As such, the novel is a flashback of Carter's high school senior year in Beaufort, North Carolina.

### Beaufort's Minister Hegbert Sullivan

It is 1958 in Beaufort. Baptist minister Hegbert Sullivan is preparing to put on his play, *The Christmas Angel*, at the Beaufort Playhouse—an event the entire community expects, enjoys, and encourages. Reverend Sullivan is an individualist, a man alone with his tomboyish daughter, Jamie Sullivan. The two of them are characters, bound to each other after Jamie's mother died in childbirth.

Our narrator, Landon Carter, describes Reverend Sullivan as "old" and red-faced "like he'd just drunk gasoline" (4). His neck has "big green veins," while his face has narrow eyes and a "fishy skin" (5).

At Christmas, the old Baptist minister puts on the Christmas play he wrote himself, a play about a man who lost his wife, had a crisis of faith, and found himself rearing his little girl all by himself. What the little girl wants in the play is a music box. Her father tries to find her one at Christmas, but he has difficulty. During his search, an unknown woman appears and she leads the man to water, asks him to look and see his wife. What appears is his daughter. What the man realizes is that his daughter is what he has left of his wife. The next morning the music box magically appears. This Christmas play serves as a metaphor of the minister's own life and the whole town of Beaufort knows this.

Nicholas Sparks. *A Walk to Remember*. New York: Warner Books, Inc. 1999. 240 pages

### Jamie Sullivan and Landon Carter

Narrator Landon Carter is telling his story with the same intensity as one who must confess. Jamie Sullivan was not a popular girl in Beaufort because she was religious, "plain" (21), unstylish with "her hair in a tight bun, almost like a spinster, without a stitch of makeup on her face" (21). Add a "brown cardigan and plaid skirt" and a series of good deeds from pulling weeds, helping kids cross a road, giving money to orphans and you have Jamie Sullivan.

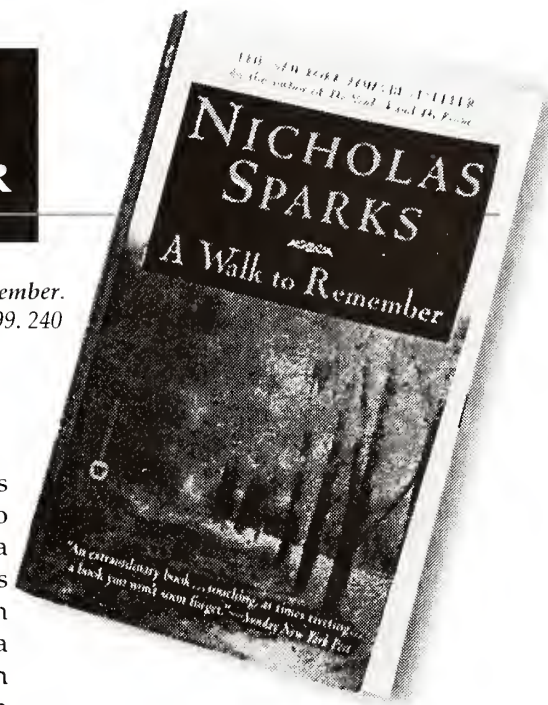
Landon Carter is opposite in several ways. He has both a father and mother as well as a popular base of friends in high school. His father is a politician, wealthy, and busy. Carter finds himself without a date for the homecoming dance. Waiting too late to ask the more popular girls, he asks Jamie. Events take off from her to spin Carter into the rhythm of a defining relationship.

### Discovery of Love

What Jamie Sullivan teaches Carter is how to love. She defines love through her actions. What does she do? She places jars all over Beaufort to help the orphans on Christmas Eve. She wants to help with the Christmas play. She takes care of a drunk girl at the homecoming dance. Always positive from her belief in God's miracles, Jamie refuses to be unkind to others despite their harsh treatment of her. She protects her father and returns his love.

### Foreshadow

Our narrator gives us the sense of doom ahead through foreshadow devices. She asks Landon if he ever thinks about the future as if that will never be a reality for her. She speaks of going to the doctor with her father and that her



father is in perfect health; however, she does not speak of her own health. She insists as she and Landon become close, "you have to promise that you won't fall in love with me" (44). Why not, we wonder. Jamie's father seems sad and his sermons become shorter. Jamie appears shaken when she admits she doesn't always understand God's message to her.

### Formula Writing

Sparks knows how to spin a tale using formula devices to make his yarn a page turner. His not-so-subtle foreshadow devices prepare us for trouble ahead. His first-person flashback indicates the story has been a defining event. Chapters end with mysterious hints, a great formula device. Chapter 1 ends with a push-the-page line: "It wasn't until later that I would learn the reason why" (27). Once he said, "But it wasn't until later that I learned her secret" (169).

### Conclusion

Images abound in this love story. Jamie's Bible, the jars for the orphanage, the magic in the Christmas play, the repetition of God's plan in history, and the power of memory all play a part in the novel. Jamie's Valentine message to Landon provides the thematic backbone of the novel: Love "is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes" (215). ❖



# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning



**I**n Matthew 3: 13 - 17, we read the account of John the Baptist baptizing Jesus in the Jordan River:

"Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of

him.

But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

## Artistic Style

In the case of this Christian image, the medium is very important for it is not a painting but is a detail from a large stained-glass window in Parroquia de San Jose, Mexico. Therefore, all of the individual features and forms are surrounded by black lines. This is the lead channel called "a came" which holds the glass in place.

The photograph of this image was taken inside the church near noon and the sun is shining in through the window. The window portrays the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist as told in the gospel of

*Source: John The Baptist Baptizing Jesus. Stained-glass window in Parroquia De San Jose, Mexico. Artist unknown.*

Matthew. This window is not like the complex and carefully glazed windows of Notre Dame in Paris or the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. This is a smaller church associated with a teaching ministry.

The windows are meant to illustrate as clearly as possible the major events that took place in the ministry of Jesus. We are told in Matthew 3:13, "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him." We see this baptism in proress.

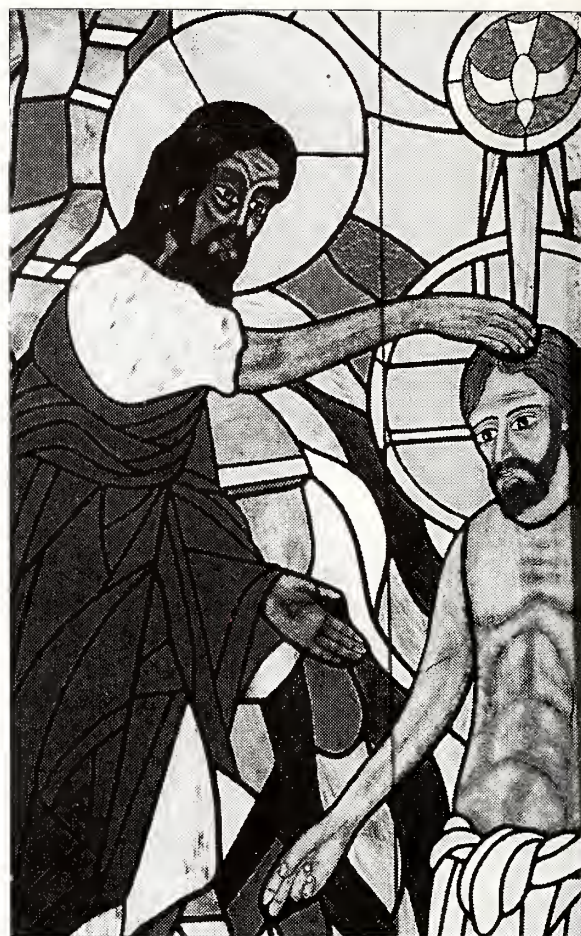
The image concentrates upon the head of John the Baptist and the head and torso of Jesus. These are very carefully worked with a fired glazing which gives them the shading that makes them appear as human form. Without the shading, it would be plain glass.

The hands of John the Baptist in this baptism are also carefully delineated with the glaze. The right hand upon the head of Jesus appears very lifelike and gentle. The left hand which appears to be gesturing as a sign of identification is also wonderfully delineated.

Other techniques in the use of glass may be seen in the radiance of the halo around John and Jesus, for here it is a roughed finished glass called hammered glass which gives an added shine when compared to the flatter glass in the background. This is also true in the garments of John the Baptist, for the white under-tunic seems to be of the skin of an animal and the glass makes it appear almost like a fur. This contrasts to the smooth white loin cloth Jesus is wearing in the baptism.

## Symbolism

The image is very literal from the Scripture. We see John in the act of baptizing, placing his right hand on the head of Jesus.



Also we see the water near his left hand similar to a stance of a modern baptism in water.

Symbolically, baptism in a river is to cleanse and sanctify. In the upper right hand corner the descending dove is surrounded by a blue circle and rays which emanate to the head of Jesus. This is in reference to Matthew 3:16: "...and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him."

We are reminded by the window that the color of the water and the color of the heavens are the same.

## Conclusion

Here is a teaching Christian image in the style of very simple and powerful Mexican folk art. We are reminded of the early uses of the stained-glass windows of the medieval churches which were designed to teach the message of the Christian story to those who could not read the Bible. In this village of San Jose, Mexico, the pictures still function in this same way. ❖



# August 2001

Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 †	6	7	8	9 †	10 †	11
12 †	13 †	14 †	15	16 †	17 †	18 †
19 †	20 †	21 †	22 †	23 †	24 †	25
26 †	27 †	28 †	29	30 †	31 †	

## The Free Will Baptist Denominational Calendar

5—Deadline for September Articles for Publication.  
 9—MOC Planning Session, Hull Road Church, 7:30 PM.  
 10—MOC Planning Session, Memorial Church, 7:30 PM.  
 12—Covenant Sunday. MOC Planning Session, Free Union Church, 3:00 PM.  
 13—MOC Planning Session, First Church, Kinston, 7:30 PM. Layman's League Executive and Promotional Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, Snow Hill.  
 14—MOC Planning Session, Peace Church, 7:00 PM.  
 16—MOC Planning Session, First Church, Golds-

boro, 7:30 PM.  
 17—MOC Planning Session, Folkstone Church, 7:00 PM. Eastern NC Christian Education Training Conference 8:00 AM—4:00 PM.  
 18—Singing by the River—Camp Vandemere, 9:30 AM.  
 19—Mission/Ministry Sunday.  
 20—MOC Planning Session, Cabin Church, 7:30 PM. Eastern Conference Layman's League, Camp Vandemere, Meal 6:45 PM, Business 7:30 PM.  
 21—MOC Planning Session, Reedy Branch Church, 7:30 PM.  
 22—MOC Fall Classes Begin.

23—MOC Planning Session, St. Mary's Church, 7:30 PM.  
 24—MOC Planning Session, Beaverdam Church, 7:30 PM.  
 26—Heritage Sunday. MOC Planning Session, Rock of Zion Church, Goldsboro, 3:00 PM.  
 27—MOC Planning Session, Daniel's Chapel Church, 7:30 PM.  
 28—MOC Planning Session, Mt. Tabor Church, 7:30 PM. MOC Fall Convocation, Rodgers Chapel 11:00 AM.  
 30—MOC Planning Session, Oak Grove Church, 7:30 PM.  
 31—MOC Planning Session, Grab Point Church, 7:30 PM.



# 2001 Convention



College Hall, Mount Olive, North Carolina  
September 11-14 (Tuesday, September 11—Night of Evangelism)

*Theme: "Celebrating Our Heritage"*

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## Convention Highlights September 11-13, 2001 College Hall • Mount Olive, NC

TUESDAY

Night of Evangelism  
Speaker, Bishop L. N. Forbes

WEDNESDAY

Presentation by Mount Olive College

5:45 PM—Sunday School Banquet  
Murphy Center

7:30 PM—Mission Rally  
Speaker, The Rev. Wayne Watson

THURSDAY

Speaker, The Rev. Frank Harrison



## Editor's thoughts...

### Revival—It's Our Turn

**R**evival begins with God's people, as indicated in the often-quoted verse, 2 Chronicles 7:14. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." This verse has served as the text for many evangelist's beginning revival message, along with the opening hymn of the first night's service, "Revive Us Again." In this verse, God declares what He will do for His people if we meet His conditions. The truth is that God is ready, has always been. Are we? He will do no more for us than we are willing for Him to do.

Untold thousands of believers are praying for revival, believing that God will hear their pleas and send revival. But what exactly are we praying for? Are we willing to humble ourselves before Him? Are we willing to go to our fellow Christians, our family, our neighbors, and ask their forgiveness for some wrong we have committed against them? It may have been some unkind word, or excessive criticism. Are we willing to lay aside our petty differences, to forgive those who have mistreated us, to forgive so God in His mercy will forgive us? If revival is to come, God's people must set things in order, including our own denomination, beginning at the top and reaching to its members. We do not need to pray so much for the presence of the Holy Spirit, for He indwells each believer, as we do to be filled with the Holy Spirit. This means submission to His leadership which can only happen when we begin to lay aside our own selfish nature, when we, as Paul, become "...crucified with Christ..." (Galatians 2:20).

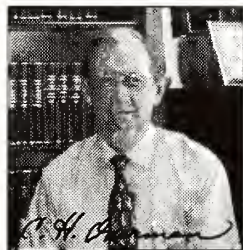
Our perception of revival is sometimes distorted, especially as we seek to measure its success. Forms of emotional response are the determining factors for many, that loudness, handclapping, and other physical responses prove that revival is occurring. In reality, however, we cannot separate ourselves from our emotions; they are a part of us. Weeping, for example, often manifests itself in times of true repentance, or in times of an outpouring of God's blessings, or it may take some form of rejoicing. Surely, the true test is what happens after one leaves the revival service, or how has the church been affected. If the church drops back to the same old routine, the same level of attendance

and participation, with little or no increased enthusiasm for the work of God, then revival has not really taken place. True revival will produce the fruits of the Spirit, and Christian witnessing will follow. Our prayer focus will change from ourselves to others, and especially upon the spiritual needs of the church.

The revivals that I remember and cherish in my life were those that produced a harvest of souls. God's people sought His forgiveness; they prayed for the salvation of the unsaved. There was a closeness among the people. Children heartedly joined in the singing of choruses. There was boldness in the preaching of the Word and decisions were made for Christ. Such revival services took place in my home church, Union Grove, and in many other revivals of the forties, fifties and early sixties. My oldest sister, Mrs. Athelene Pittman, along with 31 others, made her decision for Christ during a revival service in the early forties. The evangelist was the Rev. M. L. Hollis who conducted a number of revivals in North Carolina during those years. The pastor was the Rev. M. L. Johnson. About two years later, my younger sister, Janice, and I were among those who stepped forward for Christ. We were baptized during the same baptismal service at Sasser's Mill Pond by Pastor M. L. Johnson. There were other times when revival came, and it came without the hype and entertainment that is the mark of many revivalists and evangelists of today. True revival never really ends. It continues in the lives that were transformed many years ago.

I recently completed the reading of *The Evangelist, The Worldwide Impact of Billy Graham*, by Lewis A. Drummond. In describing Graham's legacy in the area of revival, he recalls a personal interview in which Mr. Graham expressed his conviction about revival: "I think when one person surrenders their life as best they can...that is revival in that person." The ultimate result of revival is the salvation of the lost, a harvest of souls. Sure, Christians enjoy the company and fellowship of other believers, but we must not confine ourselves within the hallowed halls of our churches. Expansion of His Kingdom involves a ministry to others.

When we pray for revival, we are in reality expressing a willingness to be used of God to bring it to pass. Are we willing to pay the price? ♦





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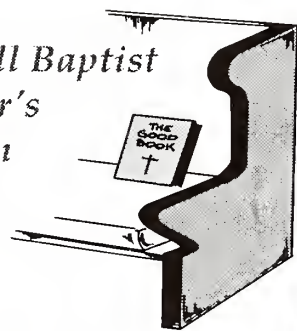
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### NEXT MONTH

*Free Will Baptist  
Minister's  
Program  
Month*



*Home Missions and Evangelism*



# The Upper Room Ought—Part One



In the late 1920s, the Rev. J. C. Griffin wrote the booklet, "The Upper Room Ought," dealing with one of Original Free Will Baptist's ordinances, "Washing the Saint's Feet."

With this issue, we begin the publishing of this booklet, with the hope that it will reinforce the practice of the most sacred ordinance.

(Rev. Griffin was an outstanding servant of God who served our denomination faithfully. For many years he wrote the column, "Notes and Quotes," which appeared in *The Free Will Baptist*.)

## Foreword

This booklet is not prepared to stir up strife with those who may oppose the observance of the command of Christ, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also OUGHT to wash one another's feet" but to keep in memory the humble ordinance as taught by Christ and believed by a number of Christians through all these years that have passed since the night that Jesus set in motion the "example" in that "upper room" where He assembled with His disciples.

There is no abuse nor hard criticisms for those who oppose the doctrine. However, we have tried to be fair and speak the truth in Christ Jesus as He has given us mind and power, and should any be offended with the writer, or object to the work, we can say with John, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren" (1 John 3:14). We will not fuss with those who oppose, neither will we compromise, for Christ said, "If ye know these things happy are ye if ye do them," and we do not want to lose the joy there is in the literally following the "OUGHT" of our Lord. Our prayer is that our God will use the little work to keep us humble and ready for service, and in the meantime bless those who may read.

Yours in Christ, J. C. Griffin

## The Upper Room Ought

Scripture: "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also OUGHT to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you" (John 13:14, 15).

It is an established fact that Jesus Christ washed the feet of the disciples. It cannot be contradicted either, that Jesus said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also OUGHT to wash one another's feet." Jesus said "YE OUGHT" for "I have given you an example." The words are sufficient to establish in the mind of every sober thinking person the fact that Jesus literally took water and followed the

method of service as written by John. It is a fact that none of the Gospel writers mention the service of washing the disciples' feet but John.

Some people have disregarded and refused to accept the command as given by Christ because it is not mentioned by the other Gospel writers. A young lady came to me one day and said, "Mr. Griffin, if feet washing, as practiced by our church is so important, why did Matthew, Mark and Luke fail to mention it?" My answer was, "Miss....., if it is absolutely neces-

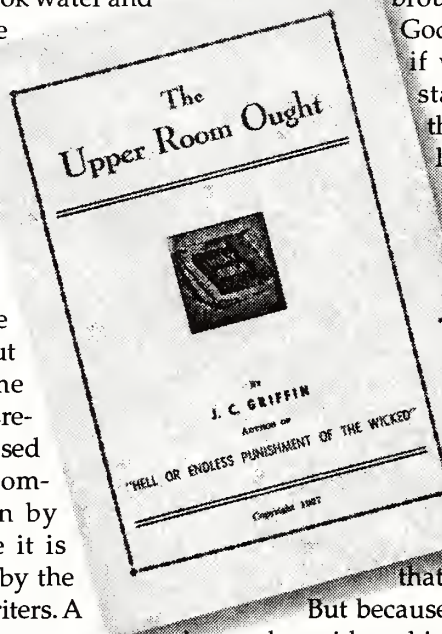
sary that we must be born again, before we can see the kingdom of God, why did Matthew, Mark and Luke write without making mention of this all important question?" She replied, "I don't know." Then, I said, "Neither can I answer your question, more, than it was God's way."

The Gospel by John did not start, nor end, as the others; however, each brought to us the revelation of God. There is perfect harmony, if we but read with understanding. John writes many things that the others are silent on, but we are informed by the Scriptures that all who wrote were inspired by the Holy Spirit. In God's plan the Gospel by John was the last to be written. John could see where the others had failed to record many of the things said by Christ, and this may be one reason that John writes things that the others say nothing of.

But because Matthew, Mark and Luke said nothing about washing the disciples' feet, we are not justified in disregarding the "OUGHT" as spoken by Jesus and written by John. We could reject the third chapter of John on the same grounds. I never heard any one who



The Rev. J. C. Griffin





claimed to believe in Jesus, even, intimate, that they did not appreciate John 3:16. Yet, it is only written by John. I wonder sometimes, why all the other writers did not mention those sweet and soul-stirring words—Words of eternal life. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” Yes, I wonder why we only find those words in John 3:16? Then I am glad to say, “It’s the Father’s will.”

### The Verb Ought

We will study this little verb, OUGHT. Several years ago I was doing a certain piece of work and one who was standing by said, “You OUGHT to do, etc.,” thus showing me how, or making an effort to show, how the work ought to be done. I knew his religious belief and knew he thought very lightly about the OUGHT in John 13:14, so I said, “Jesus said that ye ought to wash one another’s feet, but you won’t do it.” He left. It is strange that we will put a word in place and say, that it means what it says, and then take the word and twist it out from its meaning in another. A great many blunders have been recorded in God’s Word against men who refused to do what they OUGHT to have done. Some have been severely punished because they did not do what they OUGHT. King Saul OUGHT to have done what the Lord commanded him to do, but Saul thought he knew best, so he failed to do the thing that he OUGHT to have done, and lost his throne thereby. David OUGHT to have been satisfied without taking the wife of Uriah, but he let the devil get the best of him and did the thing that he OUGHT not to have done, the thing that brought sin and suffering into his life. Jonah OUGHT to have gone straight to Nineveh and preached as God commanded, but he ran from God, did the thing that he OUGHT not to have done and was swallowed by the whale—the great fish.

Jesus Christ used OUGHT on many occasions, in setting forth the words of God. Not only did Christ use OUGHT to teach us duty, but the apostles very frequently used OUGHT in expressing duty and obligations. We will now study

some of these OUGHTS.

First: Jesus said, “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith: these OUGHT ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone” (Matthew 23:23). Certainly they OUGHT to have looked after the weightier things. They were condemned for not doing what they OUGHT.

Second: Jesus said, that, “. . . men OUGHT always to pray, and not to faint” (Luke 18:1). Did Jesus mean that men ought to pray? He could not have meant anything else. Every believer, that is, a true believer, believes that men OUGHT to pray, and therefore, more or less pray.

Third: “. . . We OUGHT to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29). The enemies of Christ fought the gospel of Christ and forbade the apostles to preach, but Peter knew the command of Christ, “Go ye into all the world,” and his knowledge assured them that it was not safe to obey man, but rather they would obey God. The nature of man has from the fall, been contrary to God. Every true believer will say, “Yes, we OUGHT to obey God.”

Fourth: “And now send men to Joppa and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter: He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: He shall tell thee what thou OUGHT to do” (Acts 10:5, 6).

Had he OUGHT to have sent for Simon Peter? Yes. Why? Because Simon Peter knew something that Cornelius stood in need of, and something that he “OUGHT to do.” Why? Because this was God’s way for Cornelius to get a blessing. Cornelius did what he OUGHT to do, and Peter did what he OUGHT and God did what He wanted to do. God wanted to bless Cornelius and his household, but Cornelius had to submit and do what he OUGHT before the blessing came. Because Cornelius did what he OUGHT and Peter did what he OUGHT there was an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and great rejoicing.

Fifth: “So OUGHT men to love their wives as their own body. . . .” (Ephesians

5:28 ). Notice that Paul says, “So OUGHT men to love their wives.” Did Paul mean that men should love their wives, or, be humble enough to love their wives? I know of a preacher who preached that “believers OUGHT to be humble enough to wash feet, but it was not necessary to wash.” But how am I to know that a man is humble enough to wash my feet, if he refuses to wash? A man might say that he loved his wife well enough to take care of her, but if he did not try to take care of her, what would you think? I might be sick or in prison, or suffering in some way, and some one might say, “Certainly, I sympathize with Griffin,” but if he never came to my aid with his sympathy I would never know the good of that sympathy. “By their fruits, ye shall know them.”

Sixth: James the Just was so just and humble before the Lord, that he said, “that we OUGHT to say, If the Lord wills.” Yes, we OUGHT to be thoughtful enough of our limitations and of the will of God that we would follow the teaching of James. (See James 5:15.)

Seventh: We will now call Peter to the stand again and interrogate Peter; What about living holy? “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons OUGHT ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness” (2 Peter 3:11). Had we “OUGHT to be holy?” Yes, “For without holiness no man shall see God.” (See Hebrews 12:14.) Every one of these OUGHT places upon us as followers of Christ an obligation. I have never heard any one deny either of these oughts. All will admit that we OUGHT to comply with each. But when it comes to the OUGHT in John 13:14, then that does not mean anything to many. If Christ used OUGHT in one place to express a duty or a command, why should we disregard an OUGHT attached to another concourse of words? As I see it, if OUGHT implies duty in one of these places it does in another. It is a plain fact that Jesus said, “If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also OUGHT to wash one another’s feet.”

Webster says that, “OUGHT implies duty, or obligation.” Then according to

*Continued on page 25*



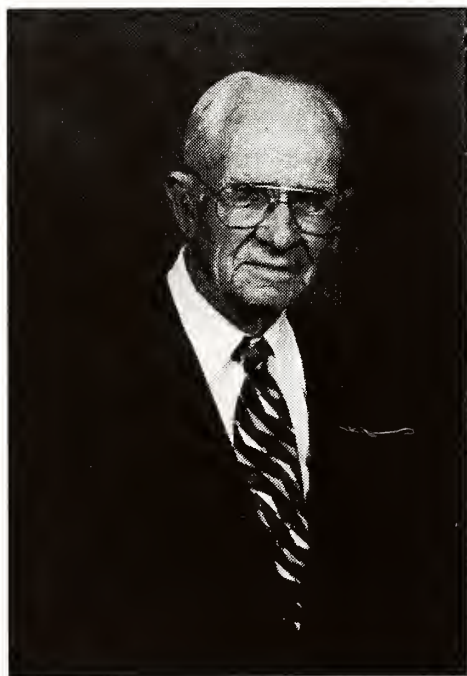
# Aspen Grove Church Honors

## A. G. "Doc" Mangum

by Carolyn Burress



*n July 15, 2001, Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church honored Arthur Gold "Doc" Mangum for his service to the church and the recognition of 38 years of service and retirement from the Church Finance Association Board of Directors. For more than half a century, Mr. "Doc" Mangum has contributed his time and talents to Aspen Grove Church and the Free Will Baptist denomination.*



Arthur Gold "Doc" Mangum

**"....Well done thou good and faithful servant."**

At Aspen Grove he has been a Deacon for 41 years; Church Treasurer for 35 years; Trustee of the Church; Sunday school superintendent, usher, and served on the church and fellowship building committees. He has served the denomination for 38 years on the Church Finance Board and 6 years as Trustee of the Central Conference.

### Resource of Church History

In these capacities "Mr. Doc" has become a resource of church history. His love of researching this history is evident when he tells you "...in 1906, 50 cents was paid by the church to the Union Meeting" or the "first pews at the church cost \$17.94."

As a young man he visited at Aspen Grove when pews were wooden benches, music was played on a pump organ, light came from oil wick lamps, and the right side of the old church was the amen corner.

The homemade pews, the heat in the summer, and no screens on the windows did not stop the congregation from the September "yearly meetings." As a visitor being invited home with a member to share their meal of bar-b-que pig and delicious desserts, was a "big day." People drove to church on mules and wagons and early cars.

Church was held once a month on Saturday and Sunday in the grove of Aspen trees and the minister was paid \$35 a month.

### Early Family Life

Mr. Mangum was born on May 8, 1912, approximately one mile from Fountain, NC. He and his first wife

Ruby moved in 1935 to their home a few miles from Aspen Grove Church. Mr. Doc was a Presbyterian and Mrs. Mangum was a Free Will Baptist.

Their children, Peggy, Johnnie Ray, and Grant began attending church at Aspen Grove. A family vote resulted in the family joining Aspen Grove in 1950. Jokingly Mr. Doc said, "He did not get enough water the first time around (sprinkling), so he wanted to get more with a Free Will Baptist Baptism (immersion)." He and his three children were baptized together at Owens pond, a location used by many churches in the area before the prevalence of church baptisteries.

### Not a Man to Sit Idle

Not a man to sit idle, Mr. Mangum began his service to the church as Sunday school superintendent and treasurer almost immediately. The treasury had a balance of \$193.14 and "dues" (tithes) ranged from \$2 to \$5.

Around 1952 there was a great deal of discussion about building a new church for the congregation and concern about "getting enough money" for a new sanctuary.

One morning Mr. Mangum received a visit from another member, Mr. Russell Baker who was also concerned about the money issue. After talking, Mr. Mangum and Mr. Baker took the family pickup truck and spent the day going around the community asking people to donate \$40 to buy 1000 bricks and \$40 to lay the bricks.

At day's end, enough funds were pledged to build the new church sanctuary. Only one man was hired for con-



struction; the remaining labor was "free." Each person's time was meticulously recorded in the treasurer's books by Mr. Mangum. In the fall all debt was "paid off."

One day a letter came to the church from the Church Finance Association. Unaware of the association's activities, he went to the meeting "to find out about it and I was elected to the board," he said.

Early activities of the board involved small amounts of money ranging from \$200-\$400. More and more churches wanted help and today loans have

Mangum and his family over the years. He is one of the finest examples of a gentleman that I have ever known. His wisdom, experience, and guidance was very helpful to me during the years I served as his pastor...His faith and example was an inspiration to me and to those who know him in his church and his community. His support of Mount Olive College and the entire Free Will Baptist denominational programs has been very meaningful over the years."

David Hobgood, chairman of the deacon board relayed, personal stories about Mr. Doc, his love of ice cream and trips taken together. Most important, he expressed the respect and love felt by the board for Mr. Mangum and that they would not accept a



Above: The Rev. Walter Reynolds and Mr. and Mrs. Mangum. Below: Guests enjoy the meal.



Above: Left to Right, David Hobgood, Mr. Mangum, William D. Thigpen, Virginia Mangum, and the Rev. Frank Cockrell.

reached a half million dollars. "We were there to help churches get the money cheaper than at a regular bank. It was the best board to have served on; when we were through with our discussions, we always came together," stated Mr. Mangum. "And we never lost money," he added.

### Participating in the Services

Participating in the services honoring Mr. Mangum, William D. Thigpen, secretary of the Church Finance Association presented a plaque and a resolution appointing Mr. Mangum, Director Emeritus for Life. The resolution stated, "The Association has grown and benefitted from his leadership and service...during his tenure of service the Association has provided assistance to many churches and ministries, and he has given thirty-eight years of faithful and dedicated service."

In a letter read at the services, the Rev. Frank Harrison, Campus Minister, Mount Olive College, wrote, "It has been a pleasure to know Mr. Doc



retirement from the deacon board. His experience was too valuable for them to lose.

Alan Joyner, representing the Unity Class of the church recognized Mr. Mangum and also the support of his wife of fourteen years, Virginia, with a donation to the Gideons. Funds for 10 Bibles are to be placed in their honor.

Former pastor of Aspen Grove and editor of *The Free Will Baptist*, C. H. Overman spoke briefly about his association with Brother Doc. "I first heard of him in 1954 when we moved from Columbia, NC, to Spring Branch Church. It was his truck that moved us. Later, in 1966, when we moved to another location in Ayden, it was Doc's pickup that moved us. He said, 'Use it as long as you need it.' His kindness and generosity is known by all who know him. We have visited in his home and enjoyed eating his favorite—ice cream—with him during each visit.

### A Pattern of Service

Current pastor of Aspen Grove, the Rev. Frank Cockrell, presented a framed certificate of appreciation to Mr. Mangum. "For Dedicated Service and Loyal Cooperation this citation is awarded with love and appreciation in recognition thereof by the members of Aspen Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Fountain, North Carolina on this fifteenth day of July, 2001."

Rev. Cockrell continued the service using Titus 2:7-8, as a basis for his remarks.

"A pattern is a guide that helps us build and construct objects. Today we honor a brother in Christ who has been a pattern to those around him.

"Brother Doc Mangum has touched many lives at Aspen Grove Church and in the community around the Aspen Grove area.

*Continued on page 9*





**Eighty-ninth Annual Session  
of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
College Hall, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina**

**Tuesday, September 11, 2001**

- 12:15 Convention Golf Fellowship ..... Sponsored by  
Executive Committee  
7:30 Night of Evangelism ..... Sunday School  
Ministry

**Wednesday Morning Session****9AM September 12, 2001**

- 8:30 Registration of Ministers, Delegates & Visitors .....  
Credentials Committee  
9:00 Convention Called to Order ..... The Rev. Buddy Sasser  
Secretary  
Congregational Singing ..... Music Director  
Scripture and Prayer  
Welcome to Mount Olive College  
9:10 President's Remarks ..... The Rev. Leon Grubbs  
9:20 Executive Committee's Report .. The Rev. Buddy Sasser  
Secretary  
9:30 Financial Report ..... Mrs. Gloria Brown  
Treasurer  
9:40 General Administrator's Report .....  
The Rev. David C. Hansley  
Recognition of Conference Moderators, New  
Churches and Missions  
Recognition of Fraternal Delegates  
10:00 Project Solution Task Force Report .....  
The Rev. C. H. Overman  
10:10 Nominating Committee Report ..... Dr. Graham Lane  
Chairman  
Floor Open for Nominations  
10:20 Church Finance Association Report .....  
The Rev. Donald Fader  
10:30 Congregational Singing ..... Music Director  
Special Music ..... King's Cross Roads Church  
10:40 Minister's Program Report .....  
The Rev. Donald Fader  
10:50 Children's Home Report ..... Dr. Bobby Taylor  
11:00 Break

*When the music begins,  
please return to your seats for the worship hour.*

- 11:15 A Presentation by Mount Olive College in recognition of their Fiftieth Anniversary

**Wednesday Afternoon Session**

- 1:15 Registration Re-opens  
1:30 Congregational Singing ..... Music Director  
Scripture and Prayer  
1:40 Cragmont Report ..... The Rev. John Williams  
1:50 Free Will Baptist International Report .....  
The Rev. Harold Jones

- 2:00 Free Will Baptist Press Report ..... Mr. Cliff Gray  
2:10 Home Missions and Evangelism Report .....  
The Rev. Al Markuson  
2:20 Break  
2:30 Mount Olive College Report ..... Dr. J. William Byrd  
2:40 Retirement Homes Report ..... The Rev. Bruce Dudley  
2:50 Sunday School Board Report ..... Mrs. Mary Dudley  
3:00 Benediction and Recess  
5:45 Sunday School Board Banquet in Murphy Center  
7:30 Wednesday Evening Mission Rally in College Hall

**Thursday Morning Worship Service****9:00 AM, September 13, 2001**

- Prelude ..... Convention Musicians  
Invocation ..... The Rev. Buddy Sasser, Worship Leader  
Hymn  
Offertory Scripture and Prayer ..... The Rev. Al Warrick  
Offertory Presentation ..... Congregation  
Introduction of Speaker ..... The Rev. Buddy Sasser  
Worship Leader  
Special Music ..... Westside Church  
The Message ..... The Rev. Frank Harrison  
Chaplain, Mount Olive College  
Hymn of Dedication  
*A Time of Prayer for Our Country, Our Congregations and Our  
Convention. Led by President Leon Grubbs*

- 10:10 Break  
10:20 Congregational Singing ..... Music Director  
10:25 Chaplain's Commission Report .....  
The Rev. Adrian Grubbs  
10:30 Ministerial Association Report .....  
The Rev. Harold Swinson  
10:35 Woman's Auxiliary Report ..... Mrs. Joan Little  
President  
10:40 Carolina Bible Institute Report ... The Rev. Rudy Owens  
10:45 Camp Vandemere Report ..... The Rev. Owen Arthur  
10:50 Historical Commission Report ..... Dr. Michael Pelt  
10:55 League Convention Report ..... Ms. Becky Jo Sumner  
11:00 Layman's League Report ..... Mr. Elmer Harrell  
President

- 11:05 Report of Credentials Committee  
11:10 Break  
11:20 Report of Resolutions Committee .....  
The Rev. Earl Glenn, Chairman  
11:30 Memorial Service ..... Obituary Committee  
11:45 The Convention is Adjourned

*The Ninetieth Annual Session of the Convention  
of Original Free Will Baptists will be announced.*



# THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION GOLF FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, September 11, 2001 Southern Wayne Country Club, Mount Olive, NC

Four Man Superball • 12 Noon Shotgun Start • New This Year, 50 and over Senior Division

## Prizes and Surprises For Everyone

- Trophies awarded to first and second place team members in each division.
- Prizes for longest drive, highest score, and closest to the pin.

## Entrants Must Be:

- A member of an Original FWB Church or Sunday School or
- An employee of an Original FWB ministry or
- An Original FWB Minister or Spouse or
- A sponsor of this tournament.

*The tournament is limited to the first 22 teams to register. Your spot is not guaranteed until your entry fee has been received.*

## Entry Fee

\$40 per player, Red Bombs—\$5.00 each (limit 2 per player) 1 Mulligan included, 1 extra Mulligan—\$5.00. \$55 buys the entire package.

*These may be purchased on Tournament day or be included in your entry fee. Please try to include your entire team's purchases when you register.*



☐ Check here if this is a Senior Division entry. Note: At least 3 team members must be 50 or older to compete in this division.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Entry Fees \_\_\_\_\_ @\$40.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of Red Bombs \_\_\_\_\_ @\$ 5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

# of Mulligans \_\_\_\_\_ @\$ 5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other Team Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form as soon as possible along with your check made payable to:  
Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

Buddy Sasser, Secretary

PO Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513-0039

## Aspen Grove Church Honors...

*Continued from page 7*

"Someone once said 'I'd rather see a Christian than hear one talk. I'd rather see his actions and behold his daily walk.' That is what being a pattern is all about.

"Over the years Brother Doc has been a pattern to all of us. A pattern of service—as shown by his service to his church and denomination.

"Pattern of direction—You don't have to talk to Mr. Doc Mangum long before you realize that the Word of God is his guide and that through Mr. Doc's love for God's Word he has touched many lives and given guidance to those around him.

"Pattern of sound speech—His words are always uplifting and pleasant and his advice is sound.

"Pattern of love—Brother Doc's love for God and for his church and his fellowman has always been made known by his willingness to help others.

"Patterns help us grow and prepare for the things that come our way in life. Brother Doc has been a pattern that has touched many lives and given much direction.

"One day when this life is over and God calls Brother Doc Mangum home, he will stand in front of his Savior and the pattern that Mr. Doc has lived will be honored by his Savior. A. G. "Doc" Mangum is a man who has by his own words, always 'felt honored to serve' and 'very blessed in life.' He exemplifies the Scripture and will hear the

words '....Well done thy good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thou Lord.'

"Thank you Brother Doc Mangum for the pattern you have been to all of us!"

The Woman's Auxiliary of Aspen Grove placed flowers in the sanctuary in honor of Mr. Mangum and his dedication to the church and its church ministries.

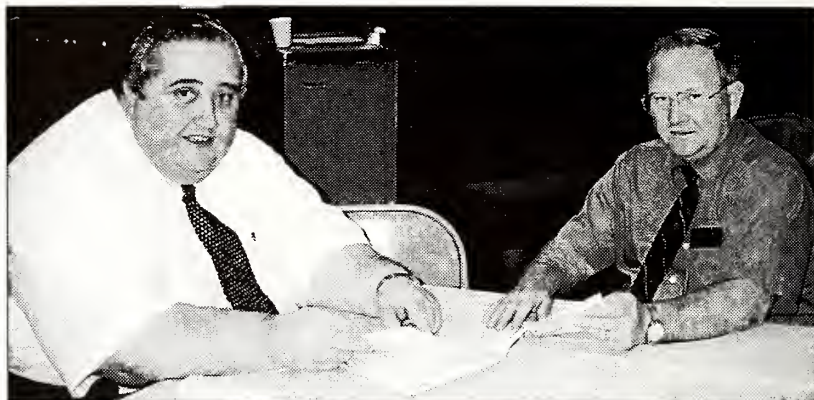
At the conclusion of the service, members of the congregation were asked to join Mr. Mangum, his family, and members of Aspen Grove Church for lunch in the Church Fellowship Hall. ❖



**S**unrise Landing Mission/Church Point Harbor, NC. This mission location continues to make progress. The land is being prepared for a worship/multipurpose modular unit. Mr. and Mrs. Al Crispin from Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church in Creswell have been leading the weekly Bible Study. A missionary candidate, Ronnie Drake, has come forward with an interest in this work.

Rev. Al Markuson, Executive Director of Home Missions and the Rev. Harold Swinson, moderator of the Albemarle Conference, discuss plans for Sunrise Landing at top right.

A group from the Albemarle Conference Churches met in early summer for an update on Sunrise Landing Mission Church. Special prayer was offered for this work's future. The group is shown at right. ❖



**T**he Board of Home Missions and Evangelism will soon be reestablishing a mission work at our facility in St. Cloud. Pray for God to bring forth a missionary/church planter and funding for this work. Shown top and right are the interior of the mission facility and outside view. ❖

**C**ovenant Mission Church, Hope Mills, NC. Home Missionary Rev. James Corbett reports that they are planning further visitation in their community. A note of thanks to all the churches and individuals in the Cape Fear Conference that totally funded the purchase of 50 new chairs for their sanctuary. The chairs, pictured at right, are in place and ready to be used. ❖





# Mission Rally

September 12, 2001 • 7:30 PM, College Hall, Mount Olive College

Program presented by the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism

**M**issionary Speaker for the rally is the Rev. Wayne Watson, Home Missionary-Church Planter Director/Pastor of Living Faith Mission/Church, Landis, NC. Wayne shows clearly his burden for the unsaved and uncared for everywhere he goes. This burden is coupled with a vision for Original Free Will Baptists — to reach out to untouched communities with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

His missionary service began with the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism in Charlotte, North Carolina from 1973 - 1978. His pastoral ministry continued at



Elwood Lane Original Free Will Baptist Church in Kannapolis, North Carolina from 1978-1994, and First Original Free Will Baptist Church, Williamston, North Carolina prior to returning to missionary service in May 1999.

Wayne has always exhibited a burden and love for home front missions during his entire ministry. He is currently serving

as a Church Planter and Director/Pastor for the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism at Living Faith Mission/Church in Landis, North Carolina. Living Faith Mission is a very vibrant and growing new work for Original Free Will Baptists.

**Why not move your Wednesday evening service to College Hall and participate in this great rally!**

**Special Offering:** Your special offering at this Missions Rally is vital for Home and Foreign Missions for the continued growth of your missions program. Begin to pray NOW and ask God what your contribution should be this year. ❖

## See You At the Pole 2001—September 19, 2001

**O**ur nation is desperate for God, whether people recognize it or not. There are many theories attempting to explain the moral deterioration in our schools and in our society, but there really is only one valid answer: to cry out to God in prayer. He is our only hope.

Junior high, high school, and university students all over the world are understanding and experiencing what yearning and crying out for God really means! You are a part of this generation. You can be a part of this movement of God.

See You at the Pole is a student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led grass roots movement that began

in 1990 as a simple prayer event and rapidly spread worldwide. This event, held on the third Wednesday of September, is an opportunity for Christian students to gather at their school flagpoles and pray for their friends, teachers, families, nation, and the world. You just need an obedient heart to meet at your school flagpole and pray.

See You at the Pole is at the beginning of the school year, the best time to take the momentum and energy created by summer camp, mission trips, and other events onto our campuses. SYATP is a springboard for you to impact your campus for the glory of God—and it starts with prayer. ❖



**L**iving Faith Mission/Church Landis, NC. Home Missionary Rev. Wayne Watson reports that God is continuing to bless the work in Landis. They are continuing their efforts to reach more of their community through the Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and through visitation.

Above, the youth participate in church services at Living Faith Mission Church. Right, the Sunday school ministry children's class. ❖





## Alumni Homecoming

Over 160 alumni and members of their families were on campus Sunday, July 8 for the Fifty-fifth Annual Alumni Homecoming. The day began with morning worship service in Memorial Chapel. Lunch followed in Whitley Center, along with door prizes and announcements. A special thanks to Mr. Dallas Dafford of Dunn, NC, for taking the time to be our special speaker.

Homecoming is a special time. It is special because all of us can look back to a time when we were the deprived child, or in a position to minister to a deprived child. Homecoming means a lot to our former children, as one can readily see from these pictures. However, Homecoming also has a great deal

of meaning to many other people as well. For former staff, persons who served on the Board of Directors through the years, and for the denomination, the Alumni Homecoming at the Children's Home is an occasion when we can feel some pride about a sacrifice

and commitment made long ago by our forefathers and perpetuated through the years by those of us who follow.

For those of you that did not attend, make plans now to attend next year on Sunday, July 14, 2002. This is your Home and we welcome you. ❖



*Invitation To Mark Your  
Calendar:  
Friends of Children Day*

*Saturday,  
November 10, 2001  
Whitley Center  
12:00 Noon*





## No Other Profession

Who else is in the business  
Of helping dreams come true,  
Building self-esteem and character  
With all you say and do?

Always there to help, you dedicate yourself  
To molding boys and girls.  
My friend your occupation's  
The most important in the world.

You never do receive  
The praise that you deserve,  
Still you carry on with dignity,  
Never paid quite what you're worth.  
Hard work and dedication  
Day in and day out,  
With all the lives you've touched  
As the jewels in your crown.

No other profession changes more lives.  
No other profession instills more pride.  
Through adolescent eyes  
You're a guiding light,  
A beacon down life's road.  
Your work is like  
No other profession that I know.

Garre LaGrone



This poem is dedicated to  
the caring staff of the Free Will  
Baptist Children's Home and  
to say "Thank You For All You  
Do"—Dr. Bobby Taylor

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Washers
- ☐ Dryers
- ☐ Large Electric Fry Pans
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking  
Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games
- ☐ 8 oz. Plastic Glasses
- ☐ TV's
- ☐ Adult Size Bookbags
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Various Types Cleaning  
Brushes
- ☐ Pole Lamps
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD Rom  
Encyclopedia
- ☐ Pots and Pans
- ☐ Standard Size Pillows
- ☐ Sets of Silverware (8 pc  
setting)
- ☐ Cordless Telephones
- ☐ Binders, 1/2" and 1"
- ☐ VCR's

## Zoo Trip

**E**arly on the morning of June 27, 2001, the residents and staff of the Children's Home arose with anticipation of a special and exciting day.

Thanks to the Rev. Frank Harrison and many Free Will Baptists (as listed in a previous publication of *The Free Will Baptist*), we were able to travel to the Asheboro Zoo.

Needless to say, at the end of the day our return trip home was a lot quieter. Thanks again to all that made this trip possible. ❖

## Convention Special

During the upcoming session of the  
Convention  
of Original Free Will Baptists,  
*The Free Will Baptist*, will be offered  
at a special one-year subscription  
price of \$9. This includes new  
subscriptions and renewals.



## John Taylor Retires

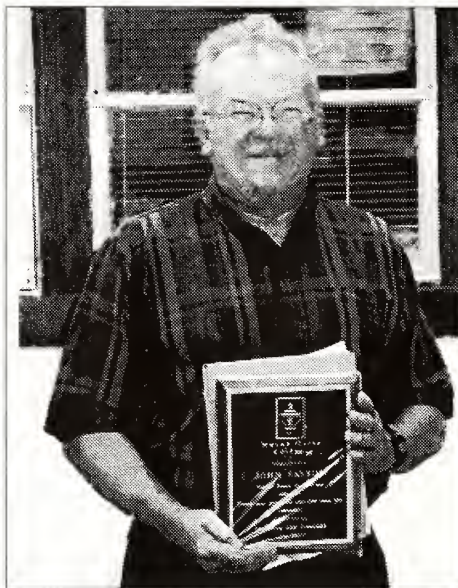
**J**ohn W. Taylor of Deep Run, recently retired from being the assistant maintenance superintendent at Mount Olive College. John came to work for the College in 1982 after having worked for 26 years at Dupont Construction Company.

A native of the Woodington community in Lenoir County, John graduated from Deep Run High School, where he met his wife of almost 50 years, Tharen R. "Happy" Taylor. After marrying and having two children, John returned to school at Lenoir Community College where he received a two-year degree.

John considers himself fortunate to have been able to work with a number of people not only at the College but also within the community of Mount Olive. He recalls a time when he could eat at any restaurant in Mount Olive and know not only everyone who was dining there, but also the employees of the restaurant.

"Mount Olive has really grown since I've come to work at the College," John said. "It has a lot more businesses and restaurants. It's become a really nice town."

Not only has the town grown, but the College has grown as well. John was



employed at the College during some of the final stages of relocation from the downtown campus located on Breazeale Avenue to the current campus located on Henderson Street. He recalls the leaky classrooms, outdated bathrooms, and plumbing problems at the downtown campus and commented on the improved conditions at the new campus.

"I remember having to set up for banquets on the second floor of the old building," John said. "We had to use a fork lift

to carry the tables and chairs up to the second floor. It was really quite a chore!"

John also recalled the students helping to plant the trees at the Henderson location as well as the construction of buildings such as College Hall and the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center.

"We use to have to move everything out of our maintenance shop if we had to paint something or repair something because it was so small," John said. "But after the College purchased the new building, we no longer had that problem."

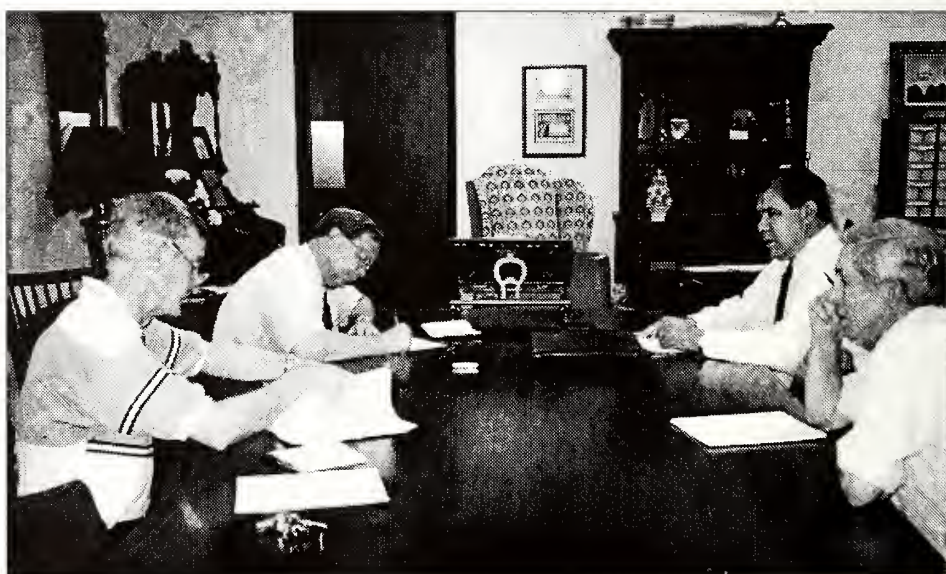
John said the thing he would miss the most about working at the College is the ability of the faculty and staff to work together. He promised to still be around to help the College in any way that he could. "And I'll be out here to have lunch with Happy every now and then," John said.

John and his wife, Happy, have two children, Lawanna Taylor Whitfield and J. Wesley Taylor, and four grandchildren. Happy, the College's bookstore manager, came to work for the College in October of 1982. Both of their children are MOC alumni. ♦

## Members of Heritage Committee Meet to Plan Denomination's 275th Anniversary

**M**embers of a subcommittee of the Heritage Committee recently met in the historical room located in Moye Library on campus. The committee was established to help plan the upcoming 275th Anniversary of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination.

Pictured (clockwise) are: the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor of First Church of Greenville, the Rev. Garland Suggs, pastor of Mount Calvary Church in the Pee Dee Association; Mr. Gary Barefoot, representative of the Historical Commission and curator of the Free Will Baptist Historical Room; and the Rev. Phillip Boykin, pastor of Lee's Chapel Church in the Cape Fear Conference. ♦





## Dr. Joseph Ingram Receives Pastor's Award

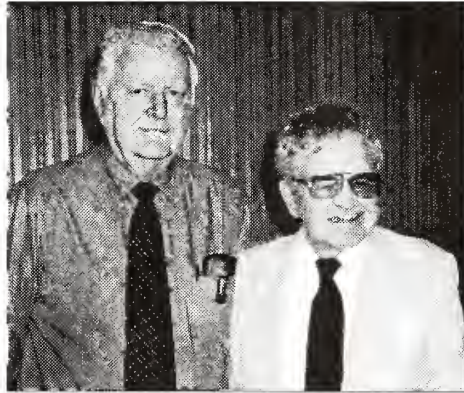
**D**r. Joseph Ingram, pastor of Barnes Hill Church in Nash County, received the Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award at the James A. Evans Lecture held at Mount Olive College on July 30.

Dr. Ingram is originally from Kenly Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County. He accepted the call into the ministry in 1956 and was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister one year later with the Western Conference. He attended Mount Olive College and then Atlantic Christian College where he received his bachelor of arts degree in religion in 1965. He received his masters degree in 1990 and his doctorate of divinity in 1991 from Covington Theological Seminary in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Dr. Ingram has previously served Cabin and Snow Hill Churches in Duplin County, Stoney Creek Church in Wayne County, Unity Church in Wilson, and Hickory Grove Church in Pitt County. In addition to serving as pastor, Dr. Ingram served the denomination as Director of

the Foreign Missions Board for 14 years. He is also past president of Carolina Bible Institute in Pine Level.

Dr. Ingram is a retired Lieutenant Colonel with the North Carolina National Guard. He serves as a volunteer chaplain



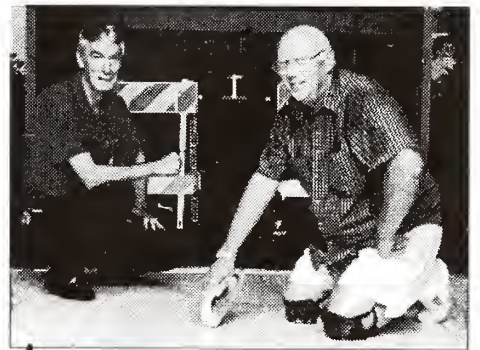
*Above: Left to Right, Dr. Joseph Ingram with Dr. Thomas R. Morris.*

at Pitt Memorial Hospital and has served as a high school sports official for basketball, volleyball, and softball for over 20 years. Ingram and his wife, Peggy Flowers Ingram, have two children, Rebecca Ingram Huerta of Beulaville and Michael

Joseph Ingram of Wilson. They also have two granddaughters, Amanda Jo Huerta and Olivia Leigh Ingram.

The Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award recognizes a pastor for extraordinary leadership and service to the church, community and denomination. Established by Dr. Thomas R. Morris of Wilmington, the \$1,000 award is to be used by the recipient to strengthen and enrich his pastoral ministry. The recipient is selected from church nominations and is then chosen by a committee that includes representatives from the North Carolina Ministerial Association and Mount Olive College.

Dr. Morris, originally from the Union Grove Church near Nahunta, provides the award as a memorial to the late Elder P. T. Lucas, Dr. Morris' great-grandfather. Elder Lucas, a Free Will Baptist minister early in this century, is remembered for his pastoral services. ❖



## Rodgers Chapel Gets Face Lift

**P**ictured is Ronnie Little of Kings Cross Roads Church in Pitt County and Gary Barefoot, curator of the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection. Ronnie and Joe Jones, also of Kings Cross Roads Church, recently placed new tile flooring at the entrance of Rodgers Chapel.

The project is part of a continued effort by the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary to refurbish Rodgers Chapel in preparation for their Seventy-Fifth Anniversary meeting scheduled for Rodgers Chapel in May of 2002. Ronnie's wife, Joan, serves as president of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. ❖

## Students Place First in National Competition

**M**ount Olive College Seniors Brad Piner of Vanceboro and Chantel Jones of Newton Grove each received first place at the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida. Brad and Chantel qualified for this competition after receiving first place at the state level in April.

The competition is part of a competitive events program sponsored annually by Phi Beta Lambda, a professional association for students pursuing business careers. Individuals, local chapters, and state teams compete in over 40 events representing a range of business, career, and leadership development activities.

Brad, who placed first in business law, is a member of Juniper Chapel Free Will

Baptist Church in Craven County. He is the son of David and Angie Piner, and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wilson. Chantel placed first in management.



Phi Beta Lambda provides opportunities for students to enhance their self-confidence and leadership skills, sharpen public speaking skills, build friendships, apply money management techniques, network with business leaders, and acquire job readiness skills. The Phi Beta Lambda national organization

is operated in cooperation with the United States Office of Education, the American Vocational Association, and the National Business Education Association. ❖



## James A. Evans Lecture

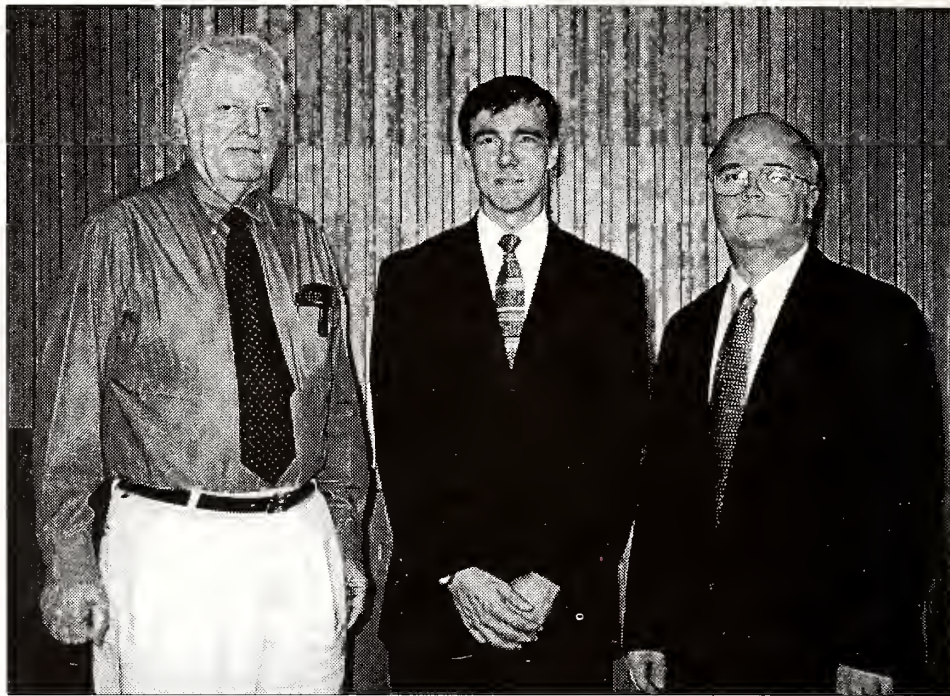
by Frank Harrison, Campus Minister

**T**he James A. Evans Lecture was presented at Mount Olive College on July 30 using the theme "Preaching to the Needs of People." Keynote speakers were Dr. Don Gordon, pastor of First Baptist Church in Mount Olive; the Rev. Gary Bailey, pastor of Stoney Creek Church in Wayne County; and Dr. Joseph Ingram, pastor of Barnes Hill Church in Nash County.

Dr. Gordon shared some insights in regard to the integration of pastoral care and preaching. He stated that Biblical preaching and Scriptures are foundations in any pastoral care program.

Mr. Bailey shared some insights in regard to one's preparation for pastoral ministry and pastoral leadership in a local congregation.

Dr. Ingram shared his personal testimony of his call and preparation to the Christian ministry as a bi-vocational



*Above: Keynote speakers at the Evans Lecture were (left to right): Dr. Joseph Ingram, pastor of Barnes Hill Church in Nash County; Dr. Don Gordon, pastor of First Baptist Church in Mount Olive; and the Rev. Gary Bailey, pastor of Stoney Creek Church in Wayne County.*

pastor. He also shared with those in attendance some of the personal struggles and needs of the bi-vocational minister.

The James A. Evans Lecture is sponsored by Dr. Thomas R. Morris of

Wilmington. Through sponsoring this program, Dr. Morris is seeking to foster the pastoral qualities he observed in Mr. Evans when Evans served his home church, Union Grove Church, in the Nahunta community of Wayne County. ❖

## COMING EVENTS

**Men's Soccer Team's**—season opener will be held at home on Thursday, August 30 against St. Andrews College at 4:00 PM. For more information contact Tina Parks, Office of Athletics, at 919-658-2502, ext. 3043.

**The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**—will be held on September 11-13 in College Hall on the Mount Olive College campus.

**The Barrow Lecture**—will be held on Monday, September 24. Dr. Walter Brueggeman, Professor of Old Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia will deliver two lectures on "Great Spiritual Themes in

Jeremiah and Books of Kings." The lectures will take place at 11:00 AM in Rodgers Chapel. An internationally recognized scholar, Dr. Brueggeman is the author of 12 books and numerous articles. The event is free and the public is invited to attend. For more information contact Dr. David Hines at (919) 658-2502.

**The Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner**—will be held on Saturday, September 29 at 6:00 PM in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. Reservations can be made through Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, director of church support, (919) 658-2502.

**Music in the Chapel**—featuring the Mallarme Chamber Players will be held on October 2 at 7:30 PM in Rodgers Chapel. The event is free and the public is invited to attend. For more information contact Irene Weldon at (919) 658-2502.

**Music in the Chapel**—featuring Chris Tatro, bass-baritone, will be held on October 12 at 7:30 PM in Rodgers Chapel. The event is free and the public is invited to attend. For more information contact Irene Weldon at (919) 658-2502. ❖



# Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center Saturday, September 29, 2001 at 6:00 PM.



**T**he annual Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner is provided as a gesture of the College's gratitude to Free Will Baptists for their support at the annual dinners. To help Free Will Baptists understand the ministry of the College and the educational service it provides for its students, the Concert Choir and Free Spirit, a vocal ensemble,

will provide a program of traditional and contemporary sacred selections. Under the direction of Dr. Alan Armstrong, Professor of Music, the Concert Choir and Free Spirit minister to churches in the region as part of their music ministry. The Concert Choir presents a fall and spring concert annually to which the public is invited.

This event honors the 1,966 Bridge Builders from the 2000 dinners; however, all friends of the College are invited. Bridge Builders are those who made unrestricted gifts of \$100 or more at their county dinners and have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of Mount Olive College.

## Reply Form

(Please return by Tuesday, September 25, 2001.) ☐ Yes, I plan to attend the **Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner** on Saturday, September 29, 2001.  
There will be \_\_\_\_\_ in my party attending.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (including Area Code) \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Mail To:

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss  
Mount Olive College  
634 Henderson Street  
Mount Olive, NC 28365

Phone (919) 658-2502

Or 1-800-653-0854

E-mail Address:

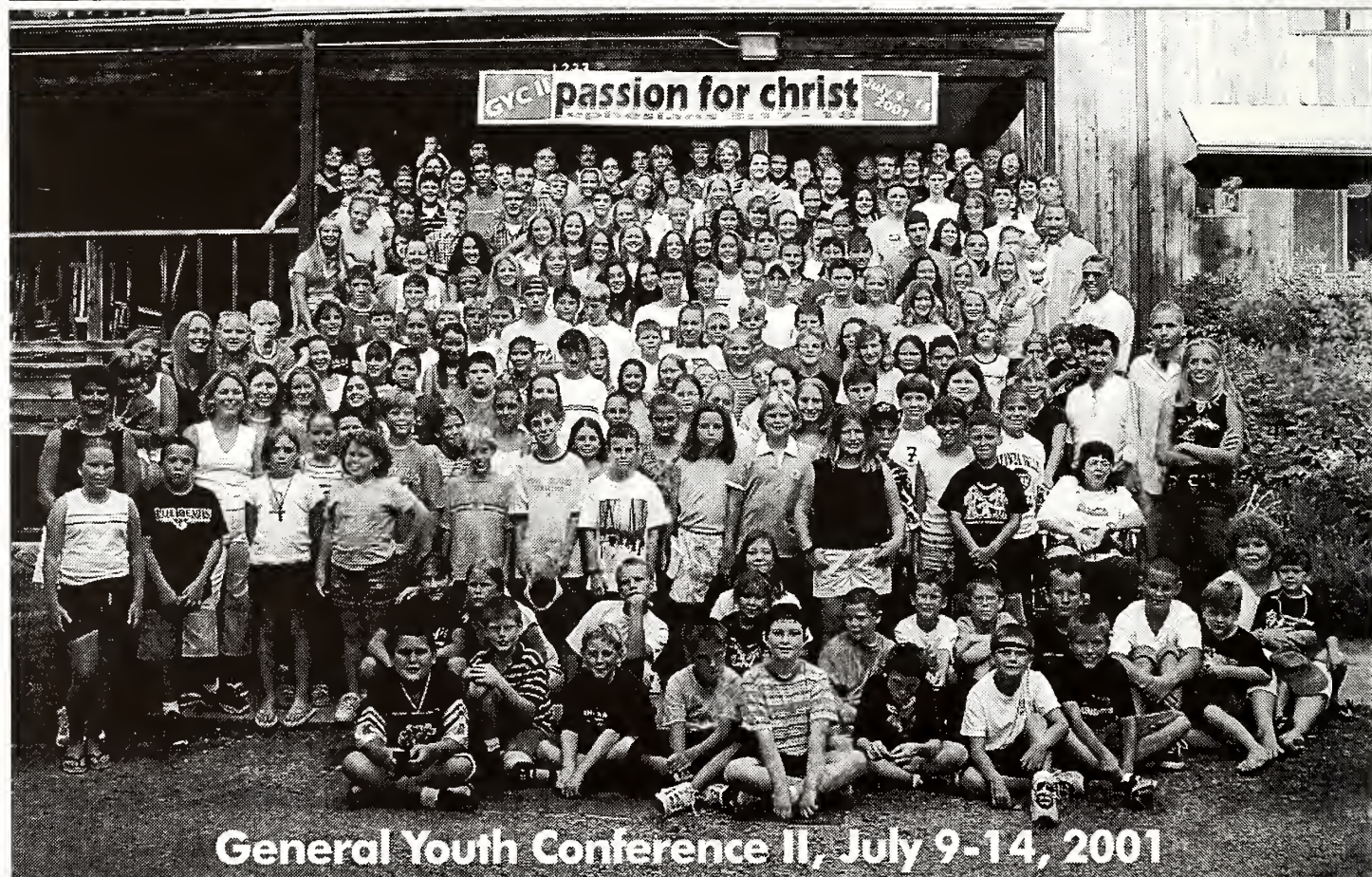
jfackiss@moc.edu

*All Friends of Mount Olive College Are Invited*





**General  
Youth Conference I  
July 16-21, 2001**



**General Youth Conference II, July 9-14, 2001**



# MOUNTAIN MALL MADNESS

## FOR WOMEN ONLY

Cragmont will host two fun-filled days of shopping to your heart's content on October 1-4, 2001.

Buses will leave eastern North Carolina on Monday, October 1. There will be several stops made for pickups.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, October 2 and 3 we will travel to Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, Tennessee for our shopping marathon. We will take in as many malls as possible these two days.

On Thursday, October 4, buses will load for the trip back home with all of your treasures.

This will be a great time for you to do some Christmas shopping and enjoy the mountains while doing it.

This getaway package includes: transportation to and from Cragmont, two days to Tennessee for shopping, supper at Cragmont on Monday, breakfast Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, dinner out on Tuesday and Wednesday evening, and



**COME JOIN US  
FOR FUN, GREAT FELLOWSHIP,  
AND SMOKEY MOUNTAIN SHOPPING.**

three nights lodging at Cragmont. Everything else will be your responsibility.

Just think of all the fun and fellowship you will have for the price of \$175.00 per person. There is a nonrefundable (within 30 days prior to trip) deposit of \$75.00 due with your registration form. The balance of \$100.00 per person will be due upon arrival at Cragmont.

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment: ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Shopping Extravaganza  
Cragmont Assembly  
1233 North Fork Road  
Black Mountain, NC 28711**

*Come and start your Christmas shopping with us!*



## Ormondsville Group Goes to Mexico

by Jack Beaman

**W**e could hardly believe it! We had been talking about the Mexico Mission Trip for a year now but the time had finally come to go.

On Friday, March 9, fourteen men from Ormondsville Church, Ayden, NC, along with their wives and children and Harold Jones, left for Raleigh where the men would board their plane early the next morning. I guess it was really that night that reality set in. We all questioned as to whether we were mentally and spiritually prepared for the challenges that were ahead, but honestly, we didn't know exactly what these challenges were. I guess this was what made us most afraid.

We traveled most of the day and arrived in Piedras Negras late that afternoon where we spent the night. On Sunday, we began a long, bumpy ride to Morelos. After riding for many hours, we turned off onto a rocky road and at that point, Harold Jones declared that it was only thirty miles, but it was the longest thirty miles we had ever traveled!

We arrived after dark and settled down in the chapel where we bunked. There were inflated mattresses wall to wall! After a short devotion, we all settled down for a long night.

The work started early Monday morning. We created two crews: one to rebuild, and one to tear down the old. Some of us were not use to this type of work, but we worked as a team to complete our tasks. We got up before daylight on Thursday to finish our remaining work so we could enjoy a little mountain climbing that afternoon. By noon on Thursday, we had rebuilt the roofs of three houses and placed new tin on three others, and our Mexican brothers had installed new steel doors and windows in the house.

We had devotions every night by the campfire. Some were done by our Mexi-



can brothers and some were done by members of our team. The Rev. Juan Montoya and his wife, Ricarda, sang each night. They also provided us delicious meals each day.

We left Morelos on Friday morning and returned to Piedras Negras. I think our first instinct was to call home, as we had not been able to communicate with families since we left on Sunday.

Later, we met to share our feelings and reflect with each other about our experience. We all seemed to be amazed at how strong our Mexican brothers' faith was, as they had so little from our perspective but felt so very blessed with the things that they did have. If only we could feel this way more often. We were

s o m e w h a t ashamed for the many things that we take for granted each day. Plenty of good water, indoor bathrooms, telephones, air conditioners, etc.

We could feel the presence of the Lord working in this community and hope that He will continue to

bless them.

We are grateful to our church, community, and families for allowing us this opportunity through financial and spiritual support. ♦



# News From India

by Anil Lall

**T**his year's Vacation Bible School was a real landmark in the history of the Free Will Baptist Church of India. We had more than 150 children and young adults in comparison to 37 children of last year. I am extremely thankful to God for the Rev. Vijay Massey, my wife Mala, Erica (Bittu), and the youth of our church and for the hard work they had put in to make this program a run-away success.

Rev. Massey had put in a lot of hard work for the arrangements of this program. The main attraction of this program was the music. I am very happy that my eldest daughter Erica and my wife took full responsibility of the music and taught many new choruses and songs both in Hindi and English. I am thankful to God for giving my daughters the talent of singing. And they are really glorifying the Lord with their voices. They were very active in teaching skits, action songs, and choreography to the children who came. I could see and feel a new excitement in the children.

The children were divided into four sections: nursery (4 to 8 years) taught by Erica; primary (9 to 12 years) taught by Mrs. Sheila Massey and Mrs. Anamika Sunny; junior (13 to 16 years) taught by Mr. Francis David; senior (17 and above) was divided into two sections taught by Rev. Massey and Mrs. Mala Lall.

We had different types of competitions, for example, group songs, skits, quizzes, and solo singing, etc.. And for everything we had a small gift. Children were so touched by everything that many of the young boys and girls committed their lives to serve Christ our Lord. So it was very encouraging for us.

On the final day we asked the children for some contribution towards a fellowship lunch and they gave very happily.



Above: A view of the church.  
Left: Senior Class. Below:  
Baptism in India.

in the Free Will Baptist Church.

It really feels good, that the Lord is using us in a different way. I have had a video coverage done of the whole program, through which you can get the real picture.

In these two months, I have attended two council meetings and have met many pastors on the individual level. The thing that I have noticed most is that though they are quite poor financially, they are quite well off in the Lord. For example, the Rev. Ratan Paul

We had a great time. We took a small contribution from the church office as well.

The final day of Vacation Bible School was on June 1, so most of our pastors were present and I felt I should call them forward to give away the prizes. I wish you were here to see the joy largely written on their faces. And the most beautiful of all things is that now in our town many other churches are having their Vacation Bible School programs, and the best part is that children are singing the same songs and choruses that we had taught them. Telling every one that they had learned them



counseled a Hindu couple and brought them to our church for baptism. I do not know the where, when, and hows of his counseling, but I know one thing, he has

*continued on page 22*



**News From India continued...**

saved one family for the Lord. The radiance that I saw on his face at the time of their baptism is unexplainable. I am sure he is going to win many more souls for our Lord in future, and I am overjoyed and very thankful to God for granting me the honor to baptize them. In all, the Lord has used me to give seven baptisms so far. A Hindu family of four came on their own and Rev. Massey brought one more person to the Lord. We were really blessed.

Seeing and experiencing all this has given me a desire, and that is to spend more time with the pastors, so that they may get rid of their inhibitions and become more confident. And above all, as I come to know them better in the same manner they will also come to know me better and serving the Lord together will be a better experience.

I can guide them to a better knowledge

of the Scripture, and a more organized prayer time. I want to assure you that through these very people the Lord is going to bring a huge revival in north India.



With your guidance my desire is to lift up the name of the Lord higher with the help of my pastors through this Free Will Baptist Church. Though I am working here, but I am facing a lot of restric-

tions, which are affecting my ministry and my spiritual life. I believe that when the spirit of the Lord is going to do tremendous work somewhere, Satan knows of it, and a lot of impediments come in the path of those servants of the Lord who are involved for the expansion of the Kingdom of the Lord. The Spirit is encouraging us to spend more time in fasting and prayer.

Can you guess whom the Lord has given to us to have fellowship and to do fasting and prayer with? Yes it is the youth, young boys and girls spend time with us in prayer. And another thing, they are highly talented in music, singing as well as playing instruments. They go along with us when I go to visit our churches, we go as a team; they do the singing and leading and I do the preaching. I trust that you are continuously praying for us. ❖



**Palawan Youth Summer Camp**

*by Pastor June Buscano, Philippines*

**T**he South District conducted a District Youth Summer Camp last May 21-25, 2001. More than one hundred thirty seven campers from different churches attended the camp, which was held at Iraray Sofronio Espanola, Palawan.

The theme for this year's camp was "Equipping the Youth for God's Ministry." The lecturers were the Rev. Dario S. Basingil, Pastor Delfin, the Rev. Eder Peralta, Pastor Armand Manzano and our newly elected District Chairman, Pastor June Buscano.

Despite the different trials and persecutions that we encountered during the camp, God showed His faithfulness and goodness until the end of our activities.

We would like to thank God for those workers who participated and prayed to make this camp a success, and to the different churches for letting the campers attend this event as God's work

God does not neglect His children who live faithfully for Him, for He is sufficient in all things. Great is His faithfulness! ❖

**Annual Convention  
Mission Rally**

The Annual Convention Mission Rally will be held on September 12 at 7:30 PM in College Hall. Please plan to attend and pray about the amount the Lord would have you, as an individual or a church, to give.

The growth and financial stability of this ministry is directly related to your interest and faithful prayer and financial support.

Thank you in advance for your generous response. I hope all of you can attend, but if you cannot, you can mail your special offering to Board of Foreign Missions, PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. You will still receive credit for the Rally offering.

**Remember:** You must earmark your check for Foreign Missions or place it in a special Foreign Missions envelope. These will be sent to every pastor and supplied at the Rally. ❖

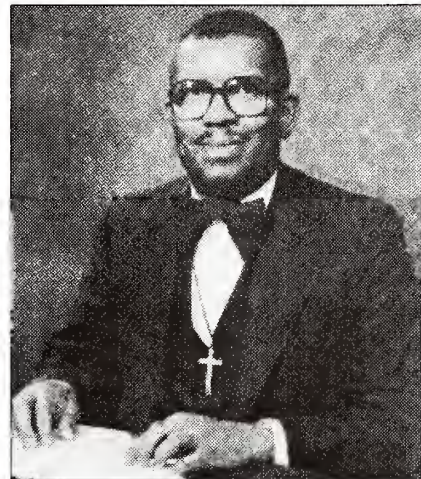


# **Announcing the Anniversary of Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School**

September 1941-September 2001  
60 Years of Continuous Service

Tuesday, September 11, 2001  
7:30 PM-8:45 PM  
College Hall, Mount Olive College

## **Keynote Speaker**



**Bishop L. N. Forbes**

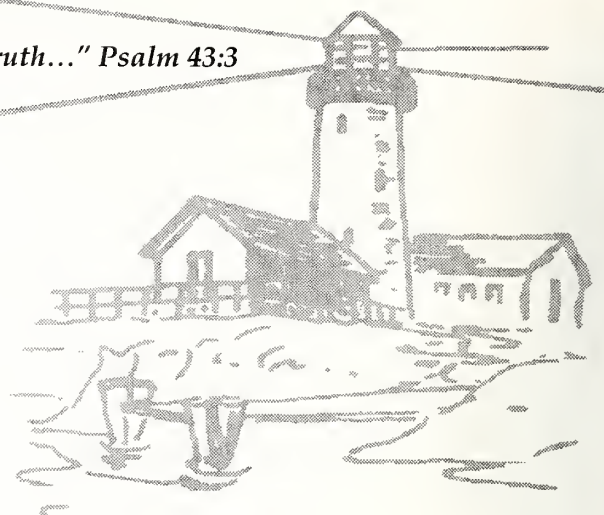
Special Music by Kings  
Crossroads Church,  
Farmville, NC

Ice Cream Social After  
Service, Murphy Center

Sponsored by The Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry  
Mrs. Mary Dudley, Director



*"Send out thy light and truth..." Psalm 43:3*



## Come to Camp Vandemere

by Mike Scott

**W**hen our Lord walked this earth, He encountered many different people under many different circumstances. In each case He left those individuals with the dynamic reality that they had been in the presence of deity, and each life was profoundly influenced because of their encounter with Him. On one specific occasion, Christ gave a very special invitation to any and all who would heed it to come and receive great blessings, when He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11: 28 - 30). At Camp Vandemere it is hoped that any individual who comes will not only experience Christ, but will also find the promises that He has given fulfilled. Take note of two things that Christ tells us we will find by coming into His presence.

First of all, Jesus assures us that we will find rest. Life is hectic at best, and living presents daily complications and problems as individuals rush from one place to another in an attempt to fulfill the obligations of life. There needs to be a time of rest and relaxation; a time when we can turn aside in an attempt to renew and refresh ourselves in the midst of the hustle and bustle of daily living. Camp Vandemere is such a place!

Located on the banks of the beautiful Bay River, the camp affords numerous ways and opportunities for the individual and his/her family to enjoy one another's company along with the beauty of God's Creation.

Everything that the water has to offer can be found at Camp Vandemere. A nearby launching area is available to put a boat in the water in order that a day of fishing, skiing or riding can be enjoyed, or the camp has canoes and paddle boats available for the family's recreational pleasure. Our mobile hookups have been refurbished and are ready for campers of all sizes. The camp's newest addition is an in-ground swimming pool, which is just a short walk away from the family lodge, containing four rooms (each able to accommodate up to six individuals). Whatever is needed for the rest and relaxation of the individual or his/her family can be found at Camp Vandemere.

A second thing that Jesus promises us in this glorious invitation is that we can learn of Him. There is not a person alive who knows all that there is to know about the Lord Jesus Christ, and as Christians we have a great desire to know more about Him on a daily basis.

There is no doubt that Christ can be found at Camp Vandemere. Throughout the summer, camping sessions are offered for children of all ages as well as for adults. Weekends are available for Sunday school, Church, auxiliary, family and individual retreats in order that people can come apart from this world and can get to know the Master on a more personal and intimate basis. The Scriptures proclaim, "The heavens

declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork" (Psalm 19: 1), and the beauty of Camp Vandemere certainly reflects the majesty of God to all who would come to seek Him.

If you haven't experienced the beauty of Camp Vandemere, there is no time like the present to avail yourself to all that the camp has to offer. Information about the camp may be obtained by contacting any of the individuals listed below. ❖

---

Rev. Mike Williams, Camp Manager  
215 Third Street  
Vandemere, NC 28587  
(252) 745-3171

Rev. Owen Arthur, Chairman  
Board of Directors  
660 Half Moon Road  
New Bern, NC 28560  
(252) 633-1185

Mrs. Judy Kennedy, Treasurer  
933 N NC 41  
Pink Hill, NC 28572  
(910) 298-4311

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## In Loving Memory

**T**he passing of Becky Venable on June 28, 2001, was Heaven's gain. She was born April 23, 1925 in Twelve Mile, Missouri and was one of ten children. She married Dan Venable on March 27, 1943. She was the mother of three daughters and one son, the grandmother of four grandsons and four grand-daughters and the great-grandmother of one great-grandaughter.

She will always be remembered for the way she loved the Lord, her husband, her family, and everyone she met. She will also be remembered for her little laugh and her big smile. Everyone that knew her also will always remember her good cooking.

She was always there for her husband as he pastored churches in Missouri, Arkansas, and North Carolina. She would sing in the choir, help in the nursery, the children's church or clean the church or anything that needed to be done.

After fifty-eight years of continuous love and support, her husband will miss her more than words can say.

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies" (Proverbs 31:10). ❖

## Rest In Peace

Along and full life you have lived  
for the Lord,  
Never asking for much just  
accepting His word.  
Taking care of others is what you  
did best,  
But now it is your turn: Your turn to  
rest.  
The people you've met and the lives  
you have touched,  
Are just a few of the reasons that  
people love you so much.  
You will be missed on this earth  
here below,  
But we know that to Heaven you  
surely will go.  
To many people here you help  
brighten their day,  
And you help lead your family  
down the right, Christian way.  
You've completed God's plan for  
your life here on earth,  
Now in Heaven you wait just as  
promised: a rebirth!  
You are no longer in pain or in grief,  
For with Our Heavenly Father you  
have now found relief.  
You will be missed by many, that's  
for sure,  
But the angels welcome you Home  
as you walk through those  
Heavenly doors.  
Your family takes great comfort in  
knowing one day soon  
We all will be together in a  
world without gloom.

So Rest in Peace, Miss Becky,  
Wife, Mom, Grandma, and Great-  
grandma, too  
For when we meet again  
You will be as good as new.

by Becky G. Venable



## The Upper Room Ought—Part One

continued from page 5

language and the authority given by Webster, and greater the teaching of Christ said so, and nowhere do we find where He ever, or any of the apostles ever, reversed this command—"YE OUGHT." It should be sufficient to know that the Son of God did a thing and then said that we "OUGHT to do the thing."

### The Great Commission

"Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:19, 20). We have proven that OUGHT is binding both according to Webster and the Bible.

We are under obligations to wash each other's feet. Washing the disciples' feet was among the things that Christ did and taught while on earth—among the last things. It was among the dying commands, as we might say. Right when "His hour had come." So it must be among the things commanded to be taught. It is true that we have no record where any of these to whom this command was first given made mention of washing feet after the Cross, but there are many other things that Christ did and taught that are not mentioned after the Cross, by those who walked with Christ during His earthly ministry. But we cannot believe that they refused to obey the commands of Christ, even though they did not publish everything. It cannot be denied that Christ did wash, and commanded that the disciples wash. That is, He taught it by precept and example. This is sufficient if it had never been mentioned by another writer, to lead us, should we be governed by the words of Christ. ❖

To Be Continued



## Aspen Grove VBS Visits SonCreek Junction

by Dorothy C. Burress

**A**spen Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Fountain, NC, held their Vacation Bible School on July 14, 2001. This year our program was entitled SonCreek Junction, a rip-roaring adventure set in a western gold-mining town.

Friday night before Bible school, we held our annual kickoff with a cookout. Afterwards everyone participated in several events. We had the SonCreek Volunteer Fire Brigade Relay, the Laundry Line Relay, Drop Yer Gold Relay, Going Frogging Relay and an old fashion watermelon-spitting contest.

It was a very exciting evening watching all of the children washing clothes using an old-timey washboard and tub (which many of them have never seen before). Some old timers were there showing the young ones how things used to be done.

Bible school began on Saturday morning as the children arrived at the little 1800's gold mining town of SonCreek Junction. When entering the town everyone got a chance to visit several outstanding stores.

Their first visit was the General Store where they were taught that folks are all different, but God loves and accepts us just the same and that we can accept others too. After the lesson, everyone received some treats from the General Store and went on their way through the town.

Our next stop was the SonCreek Quiltin' Bee, where each person designed their own unique quilt square to create our Friendship Quilt. The quilt will be put together and quilted by some of our town folks and be displayed in the Aspen Grove Church fellowship hall.

Moving through the town, we visited the Chuck Wagon Cafe. At the cafe, the children were taught as God's children they can follow instructions, especially His words from the Bible and obey them.



The Cafe group was shown how to make tasty Golden Nugget cookies the old fashion way using a wooden bowl, wooden spoon, and a rock. Each person received the tasty treat and found them lip smackin' good.

The Craft Shop was our next stop in town. Old western inspired crafts were created. Our little town folks made their very own Nugget the Hobby Horse, others made Denim Bible Bags and Fruit Jar Lanterns.

Sounds of music from the Old Opera House could be heard in the distance calling the children to sing. Lively toe tappin', folks clappin', songs about praising the Lord were tunes the group sang and rehearsed for Sunday Children's Church.

*continued on page 27*





Aspen Grove VBS...  
continued

The last stop of the day was at the SonCreek Gold Mine. We were taught that as God's child, we can go out into the world and spread the Good News about His love and how we too can enter into his family.

As the sun rose high over SonCreek, the western dressed miners from Aspen Grove could be seen panning for gold. Not only did they find gold but also precious stones and some real silver coins.

The day ended just like it began, with a rip-roaring ride off into the sunset telling others about the fun that they had at SonCreek Junction and how they too can become part of God's family. ❖



## Memorial, Mrs. Rachel Mae Alligood Foreman

**M**rs. Rachel Mae Alligood Foreman, age 86, a resident of 896 Biggs Road, Washington, NC (Five Points Community) died Sunday evening June 17, 2001, Beaufort County Hospital.

The funeral service was held at 11:00 AM, Thursday June 21, 2001 at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, NC, officiated by the Rev. Bill Mobley and the Rev. Marvin Waters. Burial followed at the Foreman Family Cemetery. Foreman's grandchildren served as pallbearers.

Mrs. Foreman was born May 2, 1915, daughter of the late Henry Alligood and Sally Lilley Alligood. She was married to Ervin G. Foreman for 60 years before his death on November 22, 1992. Mrs. Foreman was an active member of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church and its Woman's Auxiliary. She was active in Vacation Bible School and, along with her husband, served for many years as leader of the Youth Fellowship Auxiliary.

Mrs. Foreman is survived by five children. Gene Phillip Foreman and wife, Wanda of Washington; Judy F. Hutton and husband, Chuck of Charlotte, NC; Linda F. Leggett and husband, Jay of Cleveland, TN; Faye F. Jones and husband, Charles of Huntersville, NC, and

Naomi F. Tankard and husband, John of Bath, NC; 3 sisters: Gladys A. Waters, Virginia A. Alligood, and Lucille A. Baker; 10 grandchildren, Kim Foreman Windley, Gene Phillip Foreman, Jr., Pamela Foreman Hawkins, Jay Lynn Leggett, Jr., Christopher Ervin Leggett, Vicki Jones Hamblin, Kristi Jones Teal, John Alderson Tankard III, Steven Macon Tankard, and Amber Ruth Tankard and 19 great grandchildren, Andrea and Kenneth Windley, Heather, Jodi, and Ashley Foreman, Christopher and Cory Hawkins, Jay Lynn, III, and Grant Leggett, Hannah, Jordan, and Haley Leggett, Rachel and Sarah Hamblin, Parker, Clay and Cole Teal, and Briley Tankard.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Nelda Frances Foreman, son, Luke Morris Foreman, brothers, Vernon Alligood, Leslie Alligood, Bennie Alligood, and Herman Lee Alligood and sisters, Elsie Woolard and Ethel Wallace.

The family wishes memorials in memory of Mrs. Foreman be given to the Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, PO Box 10, Pinetown, NC 27865. ❖

## Dr. Bill Bennett to be Speaker at Seminar

The Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will sponsor a seminar with Dr. Bill Bennett as its special speaker on Saturday, October 13, 2001. Daniel's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, NC, will host this informative event.

The cost for the seminar will be free. Registration, coffee and doughnuts will be from 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM. The lecture entitled "How to be a Traditional Church in a Contemporary World" will begin at 10:00 AM. A catered lunch will be served by Parker's and the price is \$5.50 per person, at 12 noon. From 1:00-2:30 PM, there will be a question and answer time with Dr. Bennett.

Please register in advance of the seminar and make your meal check payable to the Central Conference. Also, please submit your question in advance of the seminar.

For more information, to pre-register, or submit a question, please contact the Rev. Joey Williams at 252-756-6600. ❖

## Eastern Conference Annual Meeting

**Antioch**  
Original Free Will Baptist  
Church  
New Bern, NC

Thursday, October 25, 2001  
9:00 AM Registration  
10:00 AM Meeting



## The Young Disciples: The Georgia Journey

by Amy Morgan

**T**he American Classic bus rolled out of the church parking lot around 3:00 AM on June 21, 2001 to take The Young Disciples from Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church on their fourth Summer Choir Tour.

None of the participants knew then what this journey had in store for them. Tour 2001, entitled "Answering His Call" after the YDs' newly released second recording, was an unforgettable experience for this group of 36 youth and 9 chaperones who left for Atlanta, GA that morning.

The YD's took in a blazing hot Braves game at Turner Field that afternoon, tackled the roller coasters and a brief monsoon at Six Flags over Georgia on Friday, and conquered the Mall of Georgia on Saturday morning.

Then, Saturday afternoon, it was down to business! The group met up with the youth and adult choirs from First Baptist Duluth for a couple of games of softball and a feast that looked like Homecoming! The evening concluded with a spirit-filled Young Disciples concert in the sanctuary.

On Sunday morning it was back to First Baptist Duluth where the YDs served as the worship choir for the 11 AM service.

Sunday evening the group traveled to Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Atlanta. The YDs performed for Mt. Vernon's youth group and joined them for a little fellowship, food, and fun afterwards. God's love was spread throughout the weekend through music, smiles, tears, and Christian fellowship.

The trip home on Monday, June 25, was without a doubt a rewarding experience. The bus made a pit stop at a very special place outside of Charlotte, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Creech.

Over the years, this couple has been quite gracious to Pine Level Free Will



*Above: The Young Disciples visited Turner Field for a hot Braves game.*



*Above: The Young Disciples concert at First Baptist Duluth.*

Baptist Church and The Young Disciples, and it was time to say thank you in person.

The group of 45 piled into the Creech family living room where they sang some favorites for Mr. & Mrs. Creech and presented them with a framed photograph from the "Answering His Call" cover.

The itinerary was fun, the concerts successful, the travel safe, but what really happened on this tour made it special. These five days were filled with emotion, truth, friendship, love, and God. When you pack all of that into 45 Christians on a mission. . . watch out! This trip to Georgia became a spiritual journey for everyone involved. This "circle of friends" is stronger in faith and friendship than ever before.

Both Young Disciples recordings "Branching Out!" and "Answering His Call" are available for purchase, and the group is already scheduling concerts for their fifth season that begins in August. Contact Rev. Donald Coates for more details at (919) 965-6740 or [youngdisciples1@aol.com](mailto:youngdisciples1@aol.com).



## Dedication and Groundbreaking Ceremony Held for Family Life Center

**H**olly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Newport celebrated Sunday, July 22, 2001, as the day of dedication and groundbreaking for its long-awaited Family Life Center.

The special service began at 11:00 AM. Special guest, Newport Mayor Derryl Garner, shared his boyhood memories of attending church at Holly Springs, as well as the early heritage of the church and community.

The Rev. Jerry Rowe, former pastor and long-time member, made remarks about earlier building projects and the vision and determination of the people of the church.

Special music was provided by the church choir under the direction of Jo McCabe and a solo, "People Need the Lord," was performed by Jim Walker.

Following the morning message, the congregation assembled by the area on which the Family Life Center will be built, which is located behind the present church buildings. Pastor Ray Conner dedicated the building and its ministry to God.

Mayor Garner also participated in the groundbreaking ceremony. He scooped up some earth with a new gold shovel. Others who took part in the groundbreaking ceremony were Mr. D. N. McCain, Chairman of the Deacon Board; Mr. Jackie Durham, Chairperson of the Family Life Center Building Committee; Mrs. Julia Dickinson, long-time member; and Mrs. Jean Rowe, wife of former pastor, the Rev. Jerry Rowe. ❖



*Above: Pastor Ray Conner dedicates the Family Life Center building and ministry to God. Left to right, Jackie Durham, Chairman of the Family Life Center Committee; Mrs. Jean Rowe, wife of former pastor, the Rev. Jerry Rowe; Pastor Conner; Derryl Garner, Mayor of Newport (behind Pastor Conner); Mrs. Julia Dickinson, long-time church member; and D. N. McCain, Chairman of the Deacon Board.*



*Above: Mrs. Julia Dickinson breaks ground for Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church Family Life Center as the Rev. Ray Conner and Mayor of Newport, Derryl Garner, look on.*



*Above: Jackie Durham, Chairman of the Family Life Center Committee, tosses a shovel of dirt as he participates in the groundbreaking ceremony. Mrs. Jean Rowe looks on.*

## Youth Sunday at Smyrna

**L**ead survivor Ashley Parker tells the blue team everyone can be a survivor through Christ Jesus during worship service on July 29, Youth Sunday at Smyrna Original Free Will Baptist Church (Cape Fear Conference).

Speaker for the day, the rising senior at South Johnston High School illustrated with camping items such as a sleeping bag, a lantern, a burner, toilet

*Left to right: Laura Parker, Amanda Johnson, Dannell Smith, and Amber Wood; standing, Ashley Parker*

tissue, etc., adding Scriptures with each illustration telling how everyone can be a survivor and live for Christ. She said, "For instance, take your sleeping bag—it is like God to you—it will give you rest and comfort."

Members of the red team were Jason Allen, Elliott McConnell and Brittney Watson.

Special music was by the youth choir with a special bell selection and several selections featuring different members of the choir. ❖





## News From Smyrna

by Helen W. Smith

**Y**outh of Smyrna Church (Cape Fear Conference) were awarded four first-place Loving Cups during the recent State Gospel Singing Convention held in Benson at the famous Singing Grove on Main Street.

The Junior choir, calling themselves "His Kidz" led by Carla Allen, won first-place during both Saturday and Sunday's competition. Participating left to right are: First row Amber Wood, Jamie Lynn Wood, Erin Parker, Kayla Hickok, Kelly Wood, and Elliott McConnell. Second row are

Laura Parker, Janice Tart, Nicole Watson, Asia McConnell, Armatha Noles, and Chason Allen.

A duet, "Heaven Sent" composed of Amber Wood and Laura Parker, also won first-place in the junior duet competition both Saturday and Sunday.

Those participating were late for the Vacation Bible School commencement because of the number of participants in this year's competition; however, the commencement was delayed until the winners arrived at the church to meet the wellwishers. Following the Bible school commencement the youth sang their winning song and were treated to refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Smyrna's youth directors are Sonja Wood, Kim and David Parker, and Cindy and Curtis Allen.

Fire dogs (Dalmations) were a great help in getting the "Jesus to the Rescue" idea across during Smyrna's (Cape Fear Conference), Vacation Bible School.

Brothers and sister, Carla, Chason, and Cameron Allen are pictured. Other Dalmations participating during the week of June 18 included Nicole Watson and Ashley Parker.

Two members each from the Meadow and Blackman's Crossroads Fire Depart-



*Above: "His Kidz." Left: Assisting with presentation are Danny Holland, (Sing) president left, and directors Dennis Hawk (in back) and Bobby Johnson.*



trayed Queen Esther and told the students how God helped her to rescue her people. David Parker portrayed Jesus on Friday night telling of the life of Jesus, and His love for us, and how He can 'give us final victory and how to get a life forever.'

The Herring sisters, Dianne, Darlene, and Carolyn were coordinators for the 'Jesus to the Rescue' crafts and Kim Parker headed the First-Aide station (refreshments).

Bible School teachers included: Tod-



*Right: Carla, Chason, and Cameron Allen are the dalmations for VBS.*

ments, the Benson and Dunn Rescue Squads, and the Johnston County Quick-to-Recovery (QRV) vehicle with technician Patrick Cogdell all participated in the "Jesus to the Rescue" kickoff and registration on Monday.

Special 'visitors' during the week included Noah, portrayed by Granville Denning, David Parker, Curtis Allen, and Ricky Raynor portrayed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Kay Tart por-

trayed Diane and Cynthia Lewis; Kindergarten: Helen Smith and Amy Adams; Primary: Kim Dunn and Emily McLamb; Juniors: Carla Allen; Teens: Karen and Vance Wade, Kim, Ashley, and Laura Parker coordinated opening assembly nightly.

The Bible School committee consisted of Dianne McConnell, Darlene Hickok, Kim Parker, Cynthia Lewis, Karen Wade, and Helen Smith. ♦



## Another Homecoming at Powhatan *by Rita Jones*

**A**n invitation to all for an old-fashioned Homecoming at Powhatan on September 16. The speaker will be the Rev. Swade Benson with services followed by a meal on the grounds. A memorial service will follow the meal for members who have gone on to glory over the past year. Fall Revival will follow during the week with the Rev. Lloyd Hargis bringing the messages.

On July 1, Powhatan celebrated "Oldest Member Sunday" and honored Brother J.C. Blinson with a covered dish dinner following services. He and his wife Joyce attended Powhatan their 60 plus years together.

He brought the morning message and several of his family members came and joined in the service. He was so appreciative of the honor and thanked the church for the opportunity to speak. Sadly, just 16 days later, he suffered a stroke and went on to his final reward on July 19. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Youth leaders and officers attended a July 7 joint breakfast meeting of the Cape Fear and Western Districts to finalize plans for the visit to the Children's Home. State Youth President Scott Lane met with the youth officers and then gave a summary to the adult leaders who had gone over other business in the mean time.

There was an ordination ceremony on Sunday, July 8, asking for blessings for Sister Diana Bass as she prepared to embark on the short-term mission to Mexico. Her husband and children joined with her and she asked for prayers on their behalf as well during her time away from them.

Vacation Bible school ran from July 8 through the commencement on July 13. The kids learned that a 9-1-1 to Jesus will always help make things right! Thank you to Sisters Ann Narron and Cathy Lee for being directors for the week and to all the teachers, kitchen workers, and volunteers who worked in any way.

Three members (Sandra Peedin, Phillip James, and Rita Jones) attended the Cape Fear Union Meeting on Saturday morning, July 28, at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC. The Rev. Jim Bogle was at Chapel Hill with member Sarah Carroll who had suffered a bad fall, breaking several bones.



*Above: VBS theme "Jesus to the Rescue" hosted visits from the Clayton Police and Rescue Squad as well as the Wilson's Mills Fire Department who were favorites of the younger ones.*

The Revs. Doug Seymour and Charlie Carroll both asked questions in their messages to make us consider a Christian's place in today's society. Are we "real" Christians with real obedience, real faith, and real love for God and one another? Do we use the Word of God as our "power source" to make us work just as the battery pack used in the demonstration by Rev. Carroll made the drill work? We must be faithful til the day of His coming.

The Youth Group of Powhatan held a revival with Brian Davis and Jason Sherman of Branch Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Selma, NC, bringing the messages on Saturday evening, July 28 and Sunday morning, July 29. The Youth conducted the services, taught the Sunday school classes, performed as the choir, took the offering, etc.

The youth member of the year was announced for 2001—Clayton High School freshman Nikki Jones. She is the recording secretary for Powhatan's Youth Group as well as the Cape Fear District, and Representative to the State Youth Board. She has attended Powhatan all her life and is active in all youth activities. Congratulations to her on receiving this honor. She also received a Teen Study Bible to further her Christian growth.

A plaque was presented to the church from the youth group listing the names of the Youth Members of the Year since the program began in 1998. They are Roberta Widhalm—1998, Chris Bagley—1999, Daniel Cole—2000, and Nikki Jones—2001. There are name bars for the next

several years' recipients available on the plaque.

As Jason Sherman mentioned in his message, the youth are not only the church of the future, they can make a big impact on the church of today. We are the biggest influences on our youth by our example. We should all take care that we set an example of faith, purity, and love.

In Memoriam: Oma Dean Ross, lifelong Powhatan member, went to be with the Lord at age 87 on July 16. She is survived by 3 sisters, 1 brother, 10 children, 32 grandchildren, and 35 great-grandchildren. We will miss her sweet smile and humble spirit.

J.C. Blinson, age 89, passed away on July 19. He had served as a deacon for 50 years and was a trustee for Powhatan. He is survived by his wife, Joyce, 1 sister, 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. Please remember these families during this time of loss. ❖



*Above: Oldest member Sunday honoring Brother J.C. Blinson.*



## Eastern District

### Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Hosted by Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church

Deep Run, North Carolina

September 15, 2001

Theme: "Don't Be a Quitter"

Scripture: "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9

### Order of Service:

9:30 Registration

10:00 Call to Order ..... Judith Kennedy, Vice President  
Sandy Plains Church

Prayer for Convention ..... "To the Work"

Hymn 393 ..... Hazel Smith

Welcome ..... Deep Run Church

Response: ..... Lois Wetherington  
Moseley's Creek Church

Scripture/Prayer ..... Sarah Alice Watson  
First Free Will Baptist Church

Special Music

10:20 President's Remarks ..... Angie Piner  
Juniper Chapel Church

Business Session

Secretary's Report

Appointment of Committees

Camp Vandemere Report ..... Gail Heath  
Snead's Ferry Church

Offering—Camp Vandemere ..... Special Music

Report of Denominational Ministries

Memorial Service ..... Nora Avery  
Wintergreen Church

11:10 Hymn 238 ..... "Each Step I Take"

Worship Service ..... Winnifred Webster

Moseley's Creek

Hymn 402 ..... "It Pays to Serve Jesus"

12:05 Miscellaneous Business

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

12:30 Lunch Announcement

Benediction ..... The Rev. Adrian Grubbs  
Deep Run Church

Spring Convention—March, 2002, Folkstone Church

Fall Convention—September, 2002, Wintergreen Church

Pianist—Donna Smith

Ushers—Shirley Griffin and Mary Smith

Music Director—Pam Braxton

## Churches & Ministers Available

NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)

**Reedy Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Winterville, NC, is seeking a part-time youth minister. Any interested person is asked to contact the Rev. Philip Wood, (252) 756-3416, or Libby Williams, (252) 355-6255.

**Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church**—6204 Lake Road, Elm City, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Any minister who is interested, please contact Donald Webb at 7257 Gardners School Road, Stantonsburg, NC 27883 or 252-238-2271.

**Black Jack Original Free Will Baptist Church**—is seeking a new pastor. The church is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Greenville, NC in Pitt County. The church has a congregation of approximately 600 members. Only presently ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers need apply. Interested applicants should contact Benjie Forrest at 2293 Sis Mills Road, Grimesland, NC 27837 or call after 6:00 PM (252) 758-5328. You may e-mail me at pforrest@nowait.net.

**Dr. Billy Yawn**—is available for interim supply, revival, lecture, seminar, or as God directs. I have 42 years of pastoral experience. You may contact me at 642 Cole Rd. Clayton, NC 27520 or 919-553-8859.

**Rev. Braxton Carter**—is available for pastoral and supply work. Ordained for 25 years, I have spent over 10 years working with youth and the last 4 1/2 years as a part-time pastor. My wife and I live in Clayton, NC. You may contact me at 919-553-7246 or 919-868-5923. ♦



# News From Riverside

by Carolyn Beasley

**T**he devil is on his way out the door! Riverside Free Will Baptist Church, Princeton, NC, has had its share of troubles during the past two years.

First, the rising flood waters of Hurricane Floyd invaded our house of worship. The pain was heartbreaking! But with the help of the community, churches, and unknown donations, we were on the way to cleaning and re-carpeting.

Then in the fall of 2000 we found ourselves without the leadership of a minister. Searching was almost impossible with so many churches without pastors at this time. We tried several but the Lord wasn't ready for us to have a pastor. The Lord tested our faith more! As He tested, faith became stronger that there was a purpose to His will.

In May, Brother Fred Baker and his delegate from the conference came to help us obtain a pastor. Our members present at that meeting voted in unison to accept the pastor the conference sent us. Brother Ken Dabbs was the chosen one. He began serving as pastor in June and the Lord has begun a great revival in Riverside.

More recently, we had Bible school July 18-20 with a picnic to follow on Saturday, July 21. We haven't had Bible school in many years! By stepping out on faith, we made a decision and the Lord blessed that decision! Again we saw working together among God's people and not the turmoil that had once filled our time and minds.

With the leadership of Rev. Dabbs, we are on a positive road. We have recently installed a new PA system in our sanctuary. Outside work on the fellowship hall is complete.

Our Woman's Auxiliary recently raised \$700.00 at an "All You Can Eat" buffet.

We are active attendees at all youth

rallies. Though small in number, we have won the overall attendance banner at the Youth Rally at Faith Free Will Baptist Church in June.

We were host to a heartwarming service by Blended Fellowship in late August. Our hearts were stirred by the work the Lord is doing through this mission outreach for the deaf.

The Children's Home was presented with 17 Teen Study Bibles, 5 purchased by the YFA, 5 purchased by the church congregation, 2 from our Woman's Auxiliary, and 5 from individual donations. School supplies and a check for almost \$200.00 to help purchase other supplies was presented. We also supported "Fun Day Rally" with a group of 12 (mostly adults, but young at heart!).

On Senior Citizens' Day, Sunday, August 5, we honored several members of our congregation for their years of dedicated service to our church. We attended the presentation of "Worthy is the Lamb" at Swansboro on September 8.

Homecoming 2001 will be celebrated on September 16. We are host to the group, *Legacy*, on October 21 at 6 PM as they come to share the ministry in song.

We share our ministry with the shut-ins at Britthaven in Smith-



field as our Bible Fellowship Class visits with Mrs. Resser Pilkington.

Our church expects more great blessings from the Lord as this year continues. I ask all to remember us in your prayers as we continue our uphill climb from the waters of Floyd. We all must realize that God always has a plan and in the end—His will be done! ❖

*Top: Ordination Service for the Rev. Ken Dabbs, wife Linda and left, Fred Baker. Center Left: Riverside Church Bible school 5-9 age group practice singing. Center Right: Opening services at Bible school. Bottom Left: Adult "Lighthouse" craft class. Rev. Ken Dabbs seems hard at work. Bottom Right: Group attending ordination, Front L to R, Cora Lee Worley, Janice Price, Susie Nix, Back Row, Jimmy Price, Leon Martin, Meta Martin, Sandy Martin, and Larry Martin.*



## Golf Tournament

**W**intergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, NC, will sponsor a Two Man Superball Golf Tournament, Saturday, October 13, 2001. Proceeds are to benefit Cragmont Assembly.

Entry fee is \$50 per player and includes: Entry fee, 18 holes riding, (1) mulligan, (1) red bomb, chance to putt for cash, and (3) raffle tickets. For more information contact Neal Cox at (252) 633-3792 or by e-mail at [nealcox@hotmail.com](mailto:nealcox@hotmail.com) or Kevin Poplin at (252) 638-8406. ❖

### Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

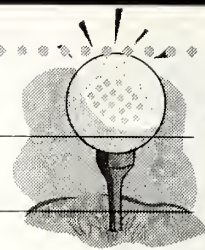
Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Neal Cox, 454 Loop Road, Cove City, NC 28523

Make Checks payable to Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church.



## The Light of Your Spirit

by Lorraine Smith

Upon the window sill I place my candle. I lift up my eyes to see the cracks in the wood frame of the window worn from age.

In the glass of the window I see an image that of myself. Soon my eyes become affixed to the flickering flame of the candle. It's hypnotizing effect causes my mind to drift into the past like the age worn cracks of the window sill. Profounding memories stir to my mind like the mystifying density of a morning fog. My childhood days of fond memories and the pains of growing older.

In the steps of time how far do we really come? Dreams and visions and hopes are nothing unless put into action. So, through the long trail of life we come to what is called maturity. Yet the universe is a force of energy, and we are a child of that energy. Having a faith in the unknown I can not perceive that man is supreme of this universe for he is incapable of a universal love. Only a supreme being could ever love this mass of energy enough to allow its being.

Then I look at this poor excuse of a life ever working, striving, and pursuing. For what? A stack of money for a mass of junk? A life-time of work for a gadget or two then what the grave? Then in the end each will find his destined end, but life is a free spirit to follow the will whatever or how far. The abundance

and fullness of life must be sought after, but never can be bought. Just as the wild flower takes in the warmth of the sun and dews of the evening so must the free spirit seek the warmth of this life. The farmer plows his field so he can plant his crop.

So we make our furrow however long however deep depending on what we wish to plant. In the harvest of this plant we will soon see how good a planter we have been.

Now my candle is burning low and the wax melted into the bottom all in one large heap. I think 'tis little time and all my light will be gone, but still the flame flickers high and there is warmth in the melted wax. As I gaze into the window pane I see the illusion of many more candles going further away. I think of this candle burning perhaps low but not dim. In the distance I see even a brighter candle, one that is everlasting.

Someday my candle shall burn out, and be no more. Not the spirit that dwells in me, for I have been touched by the warmth of infinitely. This life of mine may be a miserable excuse of a life, and hardly worthy of much account. I am a child of God's universe; and I'm loved by a greater energy than myself. Therefore my brothers and sisters of this great universe instead of ambling on stop in your furrow see how far the light of your spirit shines on. ❖

## Eastern Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

by Russell Tyson, SS Convention Vice President

**T**he Fifth Eastern Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention met at Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, NC, on July 21, 2001. The meeting was called to order by the Rev. Joe Ratcliff, Sunday School Convention President with 35 ministers and laymen in attendance.

The welcome was given by the Rev. Bobby Jones, pastor of the host church. Devotions were given by Roy Wetherington, member of the host church.

Reports were received from Camp Vandemere, Youth for Christ, and Home Missions. Please keep these ministries in your prayers.

Special music was brought by the Juniper Chapel Church Youth Choir. The Rev. Swade Benson brought a very good message (Humiliation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ).

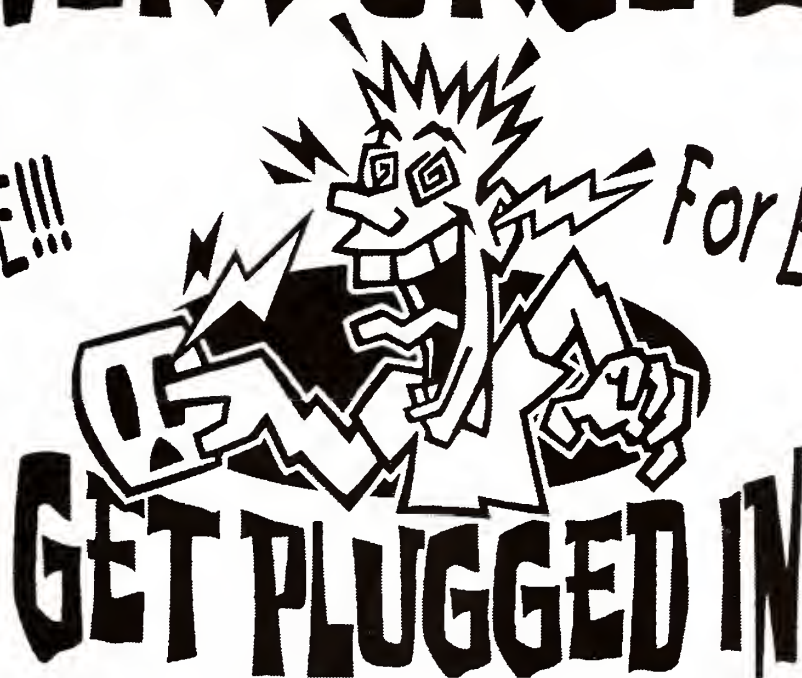
After completion of the service we adjourned to the fellowship hall for a time of fellowship and lunch. If you did not attend this meeting you missed out on a great time of worship and fellowship.

The next meeting will be at Croatan Church, near New Bern, NC, September 22, 2001. The speaker will be the Rev. Owen Arthur, pastor of Memorial Church, Chocowinity, NC. ❖



# POWER SURGE 2001

It's FREE!!!



For Everyone

ACTS 1:8a

...also, the very talented voice of Scott Bircher

September 8, 2 - 6 PM

Wilson first free will baptist church

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

Welcome to our annual Power Surge event. As you may already know, more than 400 students and adults experienced last years "Surge." This year it is even more exciting. Due to the large crowd, we have divided the Inflatable activities from the concert. This Fall will feature just the activities and the Winter of 2002 will host the concert. There will be 12 inflatable games in all! Almost double the events from last year. Some of the featured events included are a 28 foot Mountain Climb, a 25 foot Titanic Slide, Human Foosball, a Velcro Wall and much more!

## CAN I/WE GO?

"How does my church get involved," you may ask? Talk to your Youth Leader or Pastor and share this information with him or her. There will be Stu-

dent Teams, Youth Leader/Pastor Teams and Individual's challenging in several of the events. Your church may consist of as many teams as it can support. There will be trophies given to the top three Teams in all three categories.

## TUMMY PANGS?

If you are wondering about food, our own Free Will Baptist churches will be providing, Hot dogs and Hamburgers, Pork BBQ, all kinds of candy, snacks, and drinks. Remember the event is free to all that come, but you'll need to be prepared to pay for your meals and snacks.

For information on registering, call 252-522-4505, go online to [www.escape2westside.com](http://www.escape2westside.com) and click on the **Power Surge** link, or send an e-mail with your request to [escape@eastlink.net](mailto:escape@eastlink.net).



## PEOPLE & EVENTS

### August Woman's Conference Cragmont Assembly

by Becky Jo Sumner

**E**ighty-eight women gathered in the Cragmont Chapel once again to hear the heart welcoming words of Psalm 121. Those words of beginning for this year's Cragmont Woman's Conference were read by Teresa Ball. But somewhere in the recesses of the minds of "long time" Cragmonters the echoes of Dola Dudley, Alice Barrow, Lillie Mae Sasser, Gertrude Ballard and countless others were heard whispering the Psalm with Teresa.

Each morning of the conference we were greeted by a devotion on wild flowers presented by Sarah Windley and each evening our closing activity was a discussion/study on various prayers from the Bible lead by Becky Jo Sumner. The hours in between were flooded with music under the direction of Alma Dale Cox, music director, and JoAnn Parrish, pianist.

Our foundation stones were laid by Jean Ackiss, our Bible teacher for the week. Through our topic, "Prayers That Avail Much", she took us on an adventure into prayer using the Scripture as our road map and ever returning to our theme verse, "...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man (woman) availeth much" (James 5:16b).



Our afternoons were filled with gentle rocking on the front porch or, if you had the energy, trips near and far under the direction of Phyllis Rogers.

The Friday afternoon fun event was its usual laughing good time with Lorraine Hines having the reins of leadership.

The Rev. John Williams, Cragmont, and the Rev. Harold Jones, Foreign Missions, led us on paths of information, commitment, and vision that await our response as Free Will Baptist Women.

Teresa Ball, Donna Holland, May Pittman, and the Cragmont staff developed another winning Woman's Conference. Under the nurturing hand of Nurse Frances Phillips, we all stayed healthy enough to enjoy it.

Saturday found us with hearts turned homeward with anticipation and with a touch of sadness as we waved good-bye to our Cragmont experience with our Lord. ❖

### Rose Hill Honors Raymond McLawhorn

**M**r. Raymond McLawhorn was honored with a ninetieth birthday celebration on Sunday, July 22, 2001 at Rose Hill FWB Church, Winterville.

He has faithfully attended Rose Hill for over 80 years. Mr. McLawhorn was baptized and joined the church at age 17. He serves as a deacon of the church. Married to his wife,



Mr. McLawhorn enjoyed the refreshments and fellowship at his ninetieth birthday celebration.

Verdie, for 70 years, he is a devoted husband. Raymond and Verdie have three daughters and reside in Ayden, NC. ❖







Dr. Pepper Worthington

## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

**B**y 1738, Charles

Wesley was singing and preaching, his witness reaching people from all walks of life. In his journal from May 26, 1738 through June 5, 1739, he mentions specific people he touched: (1) Mrs. Bray felt "the tempter" pursued her but finally "she saw Satan under her feet and came home in triumph of faith" (110). (2) Dr. John Byrom "received with wonderful readiness" Charles Wesley's "full explanation of the doctrine of faith" (119). (3) Miss Betsy moved from "the demon of secrecy" (114) to a state of "unspeakable joy" (114-115) after Wesley's witness to her. (4) Goody Dickenson "expressed strong confidence in God" (116). (5) A "poor illiterate carpenter, Mr. Heather," (117) came to talk with Charles Wesley and found himself a believer. (6) The eldest daughter of Mrs. Claggett "was now resolved" to "repair her past unfaithfulness" (119).

### Wesley Reaches Prisoners On Death Row at Newgate

Charles Wesley preached at Newgate to prisoners under the sentence of death. The criminals took communion, prayed together, and sang hymns with Wesley. Two black men, Newington and Hudson, felt "more at ease in mind and body" (123) as they faced death. Wesley writes: "I never saw such calm triumph, such incredible indifference to dying" (123). Wesley saw the irons "knocked off" (122) of those to die and the men driven to Tyburn to be hanged. Wesley was there at the hanging to give support to the prisoners and to tell them Jesus would "receive their spirits" (123).

Wesley writes: "The black man spied me coming out of the coach and saluted me with his looks. As often as his eyes met mine, he smiled with the most composed, delightful countenance I had ever seen. . . None showed any natural terror of death, no crying or tears. . . I never saw such calm

*Charles Wesley, Seeking the Lost and Doing the Master's Work in John Wesley, Charles Wesley, and George Whitefield, The Nature of Revival. Compiled, edited, and abridged by Clare George Weakly, Jr. Minneapolis: Bethany House publishers, 1987. 109-132, 169-185.*

triumph, such incredible indifference to dying" (123). Wesley adds: "When the cart drew off, no one stirred or struggled for life, but meekly gave up their spirits" (124).

### Places Where Wesley Preached

In his journals of 1738 and 1739, Wesley tells us of numerous places where he preached: (1) He "preached justification by faith at Bexley," (128) England. (2) He spoke to "some three hundred hearers at Beech Lane" (129). (3) He preached to prisoners and prostitutes at Newgate. (4) A Quaker sent Charles Wesley "to preach at Thackstead" (131). (5) He preached in Gracechurch Street and at Queen's Street Chapel. In short, Charles Wesley went out to the poor, the prisoners, and the prostitutes of the world as well as to the prosperous and lonely souls.

### Charles Wesley and the Prophetess Lavington

The Prophetess Lavington believed perfection was possible, but Charles Wesley insisted upon man's imperfection and need of God's protection from evil. Wesley was not impressed with Miss Lavington and found her false, loud, and pompous. She was able to hook John Bray but not Wesley. Other women began to tell Wesley of Miss Lavington's "lewd life" (170). Wesley writes about Miss Lavington: "She told a brother that she can command Christ to come to her in what shape she pleases, such as a dove or an eagle. The devil owed her another shaming by bringing her again to Bray's. Wise, her gallant knight, came first. With a plain question, I asked whether he had cohabited with her. He was forced to confess he had. John Bray was vehement in her defense. When she came in, she flew upon us like a ti-

gress and tried to overcome me. . . She cried that the devil was in me, that I was a fool, a blockhead, a blind leader of the blind set to put out the people's eyes. Then she roared outrageously and said it was the lion in her. True, but not the Lion of Judah" (171).

### Personal Temptation

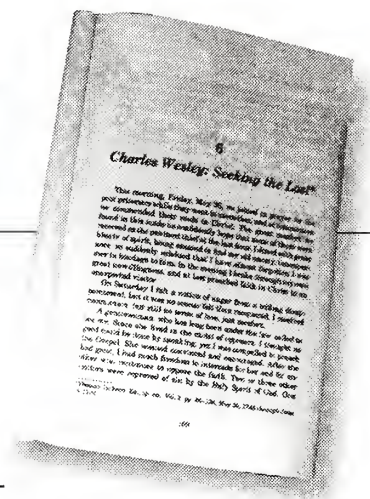
Charles Wesley was deeply aware of his fight against temptation and sin. He suffers from a sense of deadness within, from an inability to pray, from "a cowardly desire of death" (112). This darkness within "was not like the former darkness" (112) before his conversion, because he did not suffer from guilt and he did believe God loved him.

He writes: "I live in a continual storm. My soul is always in my hand. The enemy thrusts hard at me that I may fall, and the enemy worse than the devil is my own heart. I humbly hope I received a fresh pardon in communion at St. Paul's" (175).

When a woman new to Christ came to him to tell him that she was "terrified at having lost her comfort" (183) of her faith, Wesley tells her: "I explained to her about the wilderness into which the believer is generally led by the Spirit to be tempted as soon as he is baptized with the Holy Spirit" (183).

### Conclusion

Charles Wesley sang on many occasions and today we have his hymns to join ourselves to him in his music of faith. One of his most powerful witnessing moments emerged in Newgate as he sang with the prisoners about to die: "A guilty, weak and helpless worm/Into Thy hands I fall,/Be Thou my life, my righteousness,/My Jesus, and my all" (123). ❖





# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning



**F**rom Matthew 22:15-22 we read how the Pharisees plotted to

trap Jesus concerning the obligatory tribute to Caesar. In this oil painting by Bernardo Strozzi (1581-1644) we are seeing the exact moment when Jesus asks, "... Whose is this image and superscription" (Matthew 22:20)? This question concerning obligation is a pivotal one for all believers, for it has always been believed by Original Free Will Baptists to be the question that separates church and state.

## Artistic Style

This artistic style is of a typical seventeenth-century Italian painter. Why? We see very real likenesses caught in stopped motion, caught with appropriate real expressions, colorful costumes, and a very plain, somber background. The background must not distract focus upon the foreground.

Color is artistically used to draw the eye to the central figures, Jesus and the temple Pharisee authority. We see also that the paused gestures, pointing of hands, thrusting forth of the coin relate directly to the Biblical story. We also see the surrounding crowd, staring intently on the scene, focusing upon the discussion between the temple authority and Jesus.



Source: Bernardo Strozzi (1581-1644) *The Tribute Money*. National Museum in Stockholm. Oil on canvas. 65.5 inches by 89.5 inches. From Richard Mühlberger, *The Bible in Art: The New Testament*. New York: Portland House, 1990. p. 87.

## Symbolism :

Jesus is the symbolic and physical center of the painting. He is wearing a red cloak which can be clearly seen and he is pointing directly to the man who is holding the coin beneath the eyes of Jesus. Jesus asks the temple authority, "Whose is this image and superscription?" What does the question symbolize? The question symbolizes Jesus' clear understanding of the separation between church and state. When the temple authority answers, "Caesar's...", Jesus then responded, "...Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21). Again, Jesus recognizes the separation between church and state.

The gesture of Jesus symbolizes the ability of Jesus to throw back a trick question to the trickster. In this presentation Jesus seems more uneasy than in the Biblical account as if to emphasize His humanity and His vulnerability before temple authorities. Jesus leans heavily on the railing behind Him and His face reveals a

great whiteness from the shock of such a dangerous question being asked. Such in a curious way may symbolize the foreshadowing of the danger Jesus will face in the future.

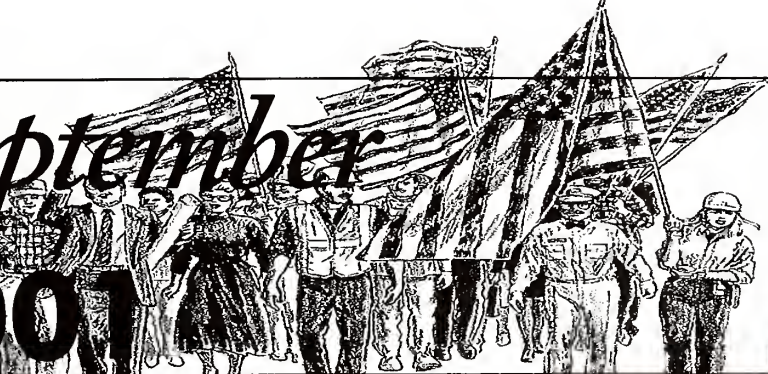
To the far left in the painting is a depiction of a wealthy man in a golden cloak. He is the one who has supplied this coin from his purse and he is staring intently not only at the scene but at his coin.

## Conclusion

Original Free Will Baptists have always emphasized the importance of the separation of the church and state. During times of persecution and taxation there has always been a clear understanding of both responsibility to political authority and to the church by the believer. It is an important and very real principle in Biblical time and in our eye. ❖



# September 2001



Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 †	3 †	4 †	5 †	6	7	8 †
9	10 †	11	12 † †	13	14	15 †
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 †	24 †	25 †	26	27	28	29
30						

2—MOC Planning Session—Pilgrim's Home Church near Dover, 3:00 PM

3—Labor Day

4—MOC Planning Session, First Church, Smithfield, 7:30 PM.

5—Deadline for October's Publication

8—Power Surge 2001—Wilson First Free Will Baptist Church, 2-6 PM

10—Central Conference Layman's League, King's Cross Roads, Farmville.

12—Mission Rally, 7:30 PM.

12—Sunday School Banquet, College Hall, MOC, 5:45 PM

15—John Maxwell's TEAM Simulcast

23-25—The Hill Top Classic—Cragmont.

The Free Will Baptist Denominational Calendar



# 2001 Convention



College Hall, Mount Olive, North Carolina  
September 11-13 (Tuesday, September 11—Night of Evangelism)

*Theme: "Celebrating Our Heritage"*

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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



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### This Thanksgiving

**N**ovember is a special month in many respects. It reminds us that winter is drawing near. The lawns have once again felt the sharp bite of Jack Frost and have taken on a different color, losing the green of summer to shades of brown. The lawn mower has been pushed to the back of the shed to await the greening of next spring. By the end of the month, most of the leaves will be off the trees, raked, and removed from our yards (that is, in this part of NC).

With the coming of November, we know the year is almost at its end, and before we realize it another Christmas will be here; 2002 looms just around the corner.

We realize, however, regardless of the many things that we associate with November, it is Thanksgiving Day that truly sets it apart. Each year on this special day, we are reminded of the hardships of those early colonists who, on July 30, 1623, after a successful corn harvest came together for prayer and thanksgiving. It was not until 1941, however, that the fourth Thursday in November was set as a legal holiday for Thanksgiving Day, although it had been observed on other dates previous to the final declaration.

This Thanksgiving will be different in many respects because of the tragedies of September 11. This land of freedom has been shaken by the terrorists' acts. The images of the burning and collapse of the World Trade Center's twin towers and the destruction of a part of the Pentagon are seared in our minds. As with Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, this is a tragedy that we, as a nation, will not forget.

Out of destruction and death our nation has been stirred and awakened. We did not think such a terrible tragedy could happen in our country. We read and hear about such things taking place in other countries, far from our shores. Now we know we are not immune and we know it could happen again, and we grapple with the horror of that possibility. America, as always, has risen to the occasion. We have responded with a sense of patriotism and determination not experienced since the days of World War II. Wherever we go, from towns

to countryside, we see this patriotism displayed with the "Stars and Stripes," our great flag, as well as other phrases and symbols depicting a nation's courage.

Patriotism is a deep-rooted American emotion. It is more than flag waving; it is a declaration of determination to defend and protect our cherished freedoms—whatever the cost. So, this Thanksgiving Day, let us thank God for His blessings upon this land of the free.

This tragedy has also called this nation back to prayer and to God. This is not to say that each individual has turned to God and called upon Him, but many have. It's been a long time since we have heard the call to prayer from so many of our leaders. We are called upon to pray for our leaders, especially our President, his staff, and other political leaders. We continue to pray for the families who have suffered such great loss in such a tragic and senseless way. We pray for our service men and women as they take the battle to the enemy, not knowing what may happen to them. This Thanksgiving Day, we have many things to pray about as we, at the same time, praise Him who reigns supreme over all earthly principalities and powers.

Since the tragedy, we understand there has been an increase in church attendance in many churches throughout America. This happened for a few Sundays during Desert Storm, but it did not last. We soon became complacent again. Will such be the case this time? It must not, for this nation, in spite of its loss, has been wonderfully blessed by God. As with past conflicts, God will see us through. Let us pray that losses will be few and peace will soon reign.

This Thanksgiving will be different because we have looked to God and called upon Him in our time of trouble, realizing that He is "...our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;... (Psalm 46:1-2). ♦







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## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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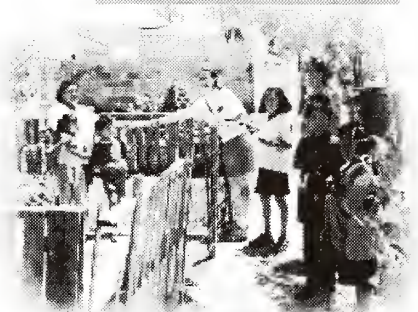
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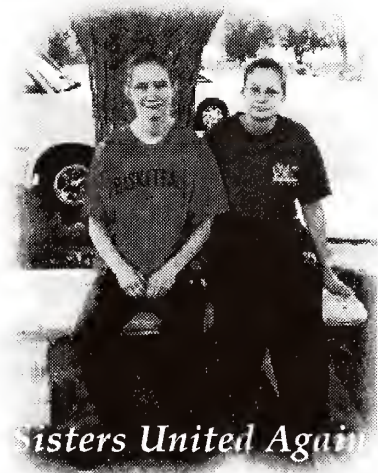
## NEXT MONTH



Foreign Missions



Free Will Baptist  
Children's Home  
Month



Sisters United Again



# 89th Annual Convention



*Top: Free Will Baptist ministers talked and rested on the grounds of Mount Olive College during the Convention. Middle: Wheelchairs provided help for the disabled attending the convention. Bottom: John Williams, Cragmont Director.*

## Random Memories

by Pepper Worthington

**S**tanding at the entrance of College Hall at Mount Olive College was Jesse Crisp, a bi-vocational minister who greeted people and used his cell phone to call his bank for a meeting. It was Wednesday morning, September 12, 2001, the day after America lost her innocence as the planes of American and United Airlines crashed into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

As a people we had been blasted out of Eden. Jesse Crisp was an usher for the disabled, an appropriate reality for all of us this Wednesday morning for we had become disabled by a chaos of collision.

A tent covering wheelchairs stood near College Hall while Aubrey Williamson, minister at St. Mary's Grove Church, called a church member on his cell phone. Technology had ushered us into a wireless world as well as an explosive one. To survive we all needed a higher purpose than hate. To the ministers gathered at the Eighty-ninth Annual Session of Original Free Will Baptists, the higher purpose became clear—a call to respond to God's call for love not hate, faith not despair, reconciliation not revenge.

John Williams stood in the foyer, his face flushed with a new vision. He had a higher purpose than hate. "We're fixing to unveil a five-million-dollar program today. We want to add to the physical campus. Buildings are the tools to do our ministry," he announced.

## Convention Floor Resolutions

On the Convention floor resolutions and motions were crisscrossing like schools of fish, each headed for a destination larger than hate, food and climate as primitive as the need to group as a species. But a species can become divided—a fact that leads to death and destruction. The banner across the stage reminded us to respond to God's call.

Bobby Futrell sat in his wheelchair as he heard the motion to make the month of May the date for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; a motion to postpone May came later. David C. Hansley continued to stress that he had a new heart, and he thanked Larry Faircloth for the camera work. A big screen provided an enlarged clear picture of all speakers, bringing the power of technology into the heart of the Convention floor.

The Lao evangelical minister Bee Lee came to the stage and spoke of his work with the H'mongs. He thanked Graham Lane in particular. "We thank you, Dr. Lane, for your hard work with us for our Lord Jesus Christ. We will never forget you. You are in our mind and memory. In appreciation to Lane, Lee announced that H'mongs wished to adopt Graham Lane and give him a Laotian name, Zang Leng Tho.

"What does Zang Leng Tho mean?" asked Lane.

Words like kind, patient, and understanding followed. Now Lane not only belongs to an American family, he also belongs to a Laotian family, the family of Tho. Such a tribute to an adult comes at a time when a blessing upon the tie that binds proves to be a higher purpose than hatred.

## Announcements and Conferences

An announcement followed. The day of February 27 will be the Original Free Will Baptist Day of Prayer—a day when the higher purpose of prayer will filter in and through the words of prayer. Mention was made of the North Carolina Interfaith Disaster Response with Original Free Will Baptists sending disaster relief to New York City. CNN had a woman whose husband was missing and she spoke of the cakes from North Carolina that had come to the people who were



trying to find their loved ones in the disaster.

Ministers from the different conferences stood alone before the floor microphone and greeted the delegates, non-delegates, and ministers. A total of 522 people registered for the Eighty-ninth Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists—numbers a testimony to the reality that part of the best of life is just showing up.

The big screen flashed the names of the conferences and their leaders: Eastern, Craig Simmons; Pee Dee, William J. Godwin; Piedmont, Roger Motsinger; Western, Dr. De Wayne Eakes; Palmer, Jim Pelt; Lao Evangelical, Bee Lee; Albemarle, Harold Swinson; Cape Fear, Fred Baker; and Central, Ray Williamson.

David Hansley announced the importance of Care-Link, for conference representatives to accept e-mail or Headquarters calls and then get the message out to their own conferences.

#### Leon Grubbs as Presiding President

"I appreciate you, Brother David, for all your hard work," Leon Grubbs noted as he turned, smiled, and acknowledged Hansley. "Buddy Sasser and I sometimes dropped the ball, but I knew I could depend on young David, and you, Buddy, to keep me straight in the long run. And they work hard to do it," he admitted, his quiet laugh a testimony to the higher purpose of love and tolerance.

C. H. Overman came forward to speak about the *Free Will Baptist* special price for Convention participants—nine dollars a year if renewed at the Convention. Following Overman, the report from the Nominating Committee passed without objection and Craig Simmons came forward to lead the singing of "Oh, How I Love Jesus." Voices filled the walls of College Hall, claiming the higher purpose of love, more love, and great love. Hate covered in the shadows.

#### Founding of Mount Olive College

Cecil Cahoon, alumnus of Mount Olive College, wrote the dramatic reading, *In the Beginning: A Reading Reflection on the Faith of Free Will Baptists and the Founding of Mount Olive College*. Readers included Dr. Michael R. Pelt, David Charles Hansley, Earl H. Glenn, Ray E. Wells,



Top: Mr. and Mrs. Roland Cherry chat with Lillian Grubbs. Middle: Aubrey Williamson, minister at St. Mary's Grove. Right: Buddy Sasser at his laptop.

Above: Groups gathered around Jean Ackiss and the Mount Olive College booth. Right: Bee Lee, Laotian evangelical minister.

Leon I. Grubbs, Dianne B. Riley, Tharen (Happy) Taylor, and Stephen M. Prescott.

Following the reading, the mayor of Mount Olive presented a resolution honoring Mount Olive College to the Convention.





## President's Luncheon

Mission leaders, invited ministers, and delegates gathered in Murphy Center for a private luncheon. President Leon Grubbs thanked the many people who helped in the missions of the Convention. Michael G. Warning presented Dr. Bobby Taylor with a gift for the Free Will Baptist Children's Homes Headquarters. The gift was a hand-stitched embroidered silk tapestry of Chinese children celebrating the Chinese New Year on a playground.



## More Reports

Al Markuson came forward to announce the salvation of fifty young people who were baptized in the Home Missions' outreach. He stressed the importance of Boy Scouts of America as a collective group wherein a church might bring youth to Jesus.

Later, Dr. J. William Byrd reported the record enrollment of students at Mount Olive College, the strength of the expanded locations, and the victory of capturing the "blue university" program of Blue Cross-Blue Shield undergraduates who will start a degree program at Mount Olive College at the Research/Triangle.

Also Dr. Byrd reported that Mount Olive College is working vigorously to complete the recommendations from the Southern Association, and is now beginning a capital campaign designed to allow the College to put up two more structures, two endowed professorships, and several scholarships.

Bruce Dudley spoke passionately about the people in the retirement homes while Mary Dudley presented Gary Barefoot with unearthed historical information about the North Carolina Sunday School Convention on September 10, 1940.



## Conclusion

More sessions, speeches, songs, and prayers crisscrossed the Mount Olive College campus, the mood of delegates, a mixture of delight in greeting old friends with a taste of tension in memories of the planes crashing into the World Trade Center, smoke and flames billowing up and out, engulfing the landscape with a visual image now stamped into memory.

Again the call to a higher purpose than hate rose to the throat, to the eye, to the heart, for nowhere in history has hatred

*Top: Participants in the dramatic reading of the Founding of Mount Olive College stand for recognition of their fine job. Center (L to R): Ray Wells, Hillary Gaskins, Marie and Earl Glenn. Dr. David Hines congratulates Cecil Cahoon for his well-written drama. Fred Baker from the Cape Fear Conference. Bottom (L to R): Bobby Futrell listens as motions were made. Michael Warning presents a Chinese silk tapestry to Bobby Taylor for the Children's Home.*

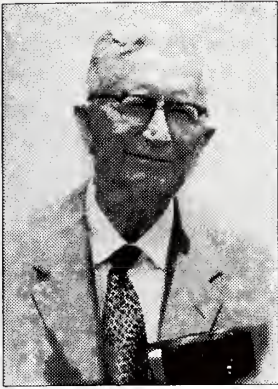
ultimately won the landscape. Aeschylus reminds us in his fifth-century Greek play *Agamemnon*, to forever cry out against death, but to strive to make the good that is in us to prevail. The chorus chants: *Cry, cry, upon Death, but may the good prevail.*

Free Will Baptists left the Eighty-ninth Annual Session with a commitment to a higher purpose, namely, to the call of faith, hope, and love—love being the prevailing seed that will smother the flames of hatred. ❖



# The Upper Room Ought—Conclusion

by The Rev. J. C. Griffin



*In this issue, we conclude the publishing of this booklet, with the hope that it will reinforce the practice of the most sacred ordinance.* (Rev. Griffin was an outstanding servant of God who

*served our denomination faithfully. For many years he wrote the column, "Notes and Quotes," which appeared in The Free Will Baptist.)*

## THE EXAMPLE

"For I have given you an EXAMPLE that ye should do as I have done unto you." What does this mean? What is "an EXAMPLE"? Webster says, that an EXAMPLE is: "1. One or a portion taken to show the character or quality of all; a sample; a specimen; an instance. 2. That which is to be followed or imitated; a pattern. 3. That which resembles or corresponds with something else as a precedent, a model, or parallel case." Webster refers you to John 13:15, for EXAMPLE—precedent, pattern, model, or parallel case. Webster is a pretty good authority on language. The most of us in seeking for knowledge consult, accept, and use his definitions. So we are to follow the EXAMPLE set by our Lord. In our weakness and limitation, our following may be only the imitation, and the "imitation" may be in a small way, but we are only required to do the best possible. "If ye KNOW these things, happy are ye if ye do them." We are to do as we KNOW. We can do no better than we KNOW. The more we KNOW, the better, or the more efficient, our service will be, providing we do as we KNOW. We are to learn, to LOVE, and to do. "Therefore to him that KNOWETH to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). To obey Christ is to do good. "... KNOW ye what I have done to you?" (v. 12). Yes, we KNOW. Well, since ye know this is to be "AN EXAMPLE that ye should do

as I have done unto you." To willfully refuse to follow "AN EXAMPLE" set by Christ, and the "command that ye should do as I have done," is to refuse to do good knowingly. As already mentioned, James says, "To him therefore that KNOWETH to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Can we honestly believe, that with such knowledge, and such drilling, both by precept and example, that these disciples would willfully, knowingly, and without hesitation go contrary to the example and the words of the Lord and Master, "Ye should do as I have done unto you"? No, we honestly believe that they followed the EXAMPLE.

Joseph Parker in his comment on the "EXAMPLE" says, "Suppose that Jesus Christ had laid down the abstract doctrine—Christians, ye OUGHT to wash one another's feet. What would have been the result? Who would have believed Him? We should have found in that an instance of mistranslation; there would have been great hunting up of grammars and lexicons upon that point, because it stands to reason that the thing is utterly absurd. There is a missing letter; there is a wrong punctuation; there is a great difference of opinion between critics, we should have said, as to the meaning of this. But what does Jesus Christ do? Instead of merely laying down the doctrine, He gave the example. This shows how teaching may start from either of two points—from philosophy or from life. It may be based upon a course of reasoning; it may express itself in example, in service, in deed. Some teaching must, from the necessity of the case, be purely intellectual; it does not admit of incarnation. Other teaching may at once be practical; it may arise out of the life, and prove by positive demonstration the practicability and beneficence of its philosophy. Christ's method did not admit a debate. It was not a theory, it was a fact. There it was—a stoop that never could be forgotten, an argument which no ingenuity could ever impair. It was practicable; the Lord and Master had done it. It was worth doing, or He who never trifled

with life would not have set the example. We want to hide ourselves under a great name. Christ provides for this popularity of our nature. He allows us to use His name and example. You may say that I did it. If ever you are caught in the humiliating act of washing your brother's feet, and there should come into your cheek a tingling of shame, you may say, I did it. Sometimes you will want the defense of a name; you will occasionally want to be able to point to somebody behind you and say, 'He did it first.'—*People's Bible*, Volume 22, Page 280.

I know of no greater defense than Christ. I have heard sermons and lectures when the speaker announced that he would "Defend the Bible." But the Bible needs no defense. Christ and His Bible defend the believer. We can point with pride to our defense. Yes, when those who do not "KNOW" would ask why do you Free Will Baptist wash feet in your service and worship, we can with love and rejoicing say, "Jesus did it first, and said it was an EXAMPLE, and commanded us to do it. Then He attached a promise to the doing by saying, if ye know these things happy are ye if ye do them." Yes our only authority—our origin—the Founder of the Church is the Christ who said that "I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you." He did it first.

## WHERE DID CHRIST WASH THE DISCIPLES' FEET?

Some theologians have claimed that Christ washed the disciples' feet at Bethany, and not at Jerusalem, and therefore has no connection at all with the Lord's Supper. A few years ago a minister who was getting ready to leave our church (however I did not know of his getting off at that time) and I were on a train together and he said to me, "Griffin, did you know that Christ did not wash the disciples' feet on the night when He instituted the Lord's Supper?" I said, "No, I did not know." Neither did I after he had tried to explain. But I did know that he was off—and soon he was

*Continued on next page.*



gone. It is strange that men who claim to know will make such broad mistakes. It looks like by reading the plain facts as stated by the Gospel writers that men would see and know the truth. I am going to give some proof that cannot be denied, some proof that shows plainly that Christ washed the disciples' feet on the same night that He instituted the Lord's Supper.

### THE POINTING OUT OF JUDAS, THE BETRAYER

"And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall

betray me. And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord is it I? And he said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me" (Matthew 26:21-23). This is the testimony of Matthew. The betrayer was pointed out by "dipping" with Christ. We will now get Mark's testimony. "And in the evening he

cometh with the twelve. And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, Verily I say unto you, one of you which eateth with me shall betray me. And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto him one by one, Is it I? And another said, Is it I? And he answered and said unto them, It is one of the twelve, that dippeth with me in the dish" (Mark 14:17-20). We will now call Brother Luke and see what he has to say about this great occasion. "But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table. And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: But woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed! And they began to inquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing" ( Luke 22:21-23 ). We will call John to the witness stand. John, what do you know about the betrayer,

and how was he pointed out? "When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spoke. He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when



he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon" (John 13:21-26).

By the testimony of Matthew, Mark and Luke, we find that the betrayer was pointed out on the night when the Lord's Supper was instituted. He was pointed out in the upper room in Jerusalem as the supper was in progress. Matthew says that the betrayer was pointed out by dipping with Christ. Mark says, "One of the twelve that dippeth with Christ." Luke says that his "hand was on the table with Christ." Not necessarily lying on the table, but in the act of dipping from the vessel with Christ, as the vessel was on the table. Now John tells, or gives in detail, more than the others. He does not deny a single statement of the others. "They all began to say," and "some

said" but while the saying was in progress, Peter beckoned to John, who was by this time "leaning on Jesus' bosom" to ask Him who it was? As the hand of Judas, and the hand of Christ were dipping together, Christ turned His dipping over to Judas with information that he ( Judas ) was the guilty man. John's testimony is that it was on the night that Christ washed the disciples' feet. So three of these writers say that it was on the night of the institution of the Lord's Supper, in the upper room at Jerusalem. These writers are silent on the feet washing. John says

that it was at the time of feet washing, so it is an evident fact that the feet washing and the Lord's Supper took place on the same night and in the same place. John says nothing definitely of the supper, but he does say, that Christ said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." John only named one thing—washing the disciples' feet. But says

"things" in giving the reward. The supper and washing feet make things.

### FURTHER PROOF

John tells us that Christ foretells Peter's denial after Christ had washed the disciples' feet, and pointed out Judas as the betrayer. Mark says that the institution of the Lord's Supper, the pointing out of the betrayer, and the foretelling of Peter's denial all took place on the same night. "And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives. And Jesus saith unto them, all ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered. But after that I am risen, I will go before you into Galilee. But Peter said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet will



not I. And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, that this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice" ( Mark 14:26-30).

Luke informs us that Christ predicted Peter's denial, after the betrayer had been singled out, which was during the supper, the same night that "the Lord's Supper was instituted. Here is Luke's testimony. "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And he said, I tell thee Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me" (Luke 22:31-34).

According to the Gospel by John, Jesus foretells Peter's denial after that Judas was pointed out as the betrayer, which follows washing the disciples' feet, which was at the conclusion of the supper (John 13:2). "Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, Whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice" (John 13:36-38).

So Mark and Luke tell us that Peter's denial took place on the night of the institution of the Lord's Supper, which was the same night that Judas was made known as the betrayer of Christ. John says that Jesus foretells His betrayal, and Peter's denial on the same night that the Lord washed the disciples' feet. So this proves that the washing of feet by Christ as a new order, or custom—a church rite—an ordinance—was on the same night that He instituted the Lord's Supper.

With these facts before us, we can easily see that Christ did not wash the disciples' feet at Bethany, but in Jerusalem. The feet washing that took place at Bethany was the anointing of the feet of Jesus with precious ointment, was done by Mary. There is no reason why one should get the two confused. We would

say to such believers, "Search the Scriptures." Jesus says, "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth in me should not abide in darkness" (John 12:46). There is no reason why one should be in the darkness concerning these plain statements and commands of our Lord. If I believe in Him, I must believe what He says. When He says that I "OUGHT" then I believe that I OUGHT. Again we will listen to the Master as He teaches: "And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me; He gave me a commandment, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting; whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak" (John 12:47-50). The next thing that John records after these words of our Lord and Master, is the Passover Supper and the washing of the disciples' feet.'" Then Jesus who has plainly stated that whatsoever He spake was as the Father had commanded, that it was the words of the Father, sits down and explains by using the Father's word and says "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." According to the testimony of Christ, the washing of the disciples' feet was a command of the Father. "Even as the Father said unto me, so I speak."

#### THE MINUTE DESCRIPTION

1. Supper being ended.
2. He riseth from supper.
3. And laid aside his garments.
4. And took a towel.
5. And girded himself.
6. Poureth water into a bason.
7. Begins to wash the disciples' feet.
8. And to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

Where can we find another instance in our Lord's life where the service ren-

dered is so minutely recorded. There is a reason for this minute detail of this service, rendered by our Lord. He is now setting an EXAMPLE; something that His followers might practice, as a confession of their humility and love one for another. "By this shall all men KNOW that ye are my disciples, if ye have LOVE one for another" (John 13:35).

#### 'CLEAN BUT NOT ALL'

"Jesus saith to him, (Peter) He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he KNEW who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean" (vv. 10, 11). Some folks have used this verse to do away with washing feet. It sounds pretty good to the one who has not looked further. But by reading further we find that Jesus says what He has done was to teach us our duty to each other—that is He washed and we "OUGHT" to wash, "for He has given us an EXAMPLE." If Christ had finished with the tenth verse, why then there would be some excuse for not washing the disciples' feet. But since He goes on and says "Ye OUGHT to do as I have done," and makes it plain that the service rendered was "An EXAMPLE," I see no way to get by without absolutely refusing to do the thing that Jesus calls "AN EXAMPLE" and says that "WE OUGHT TO DO."

Again, they were "not all clean." There was Judas who was "a devil." Ready, was he, to sell the Lord. Yes, there was sin. Some were anxious to know who should be the greatest. There is sin today in the church. Some are carnal. Some want to get the high places. Washing feet is an act of humility. You cannot get down and wash your brother's feet in the true spirit, if you have got the "big head." It takes a lot of real prayer to get into the right attitude to wash a brother's feet. God's children are all on an equality in salvation. "We are saved by grace." We have nothing to boast of. None are saved because they are better than others. There are no big I's and little U's in the Lord's family. Scornful pride has no place. To

*Continued on next page.*



get into Christ Jesus one must be brought low. To retain sweet fellowship with Christ one must be humble. The ordinance of feet washing, as Christ taught, teaches us to be humble. Paul says that we should be "clothed with humility." When we wash feet we must not look for some one who is a little more refined, than others. We must not look for the one who seems to be a little better in friendship. In fact we must not select with preference, or with more choice, out of respect for one more than another. We are to wash, because we are God's children—born of the Spirit—filled with God's goodness—because Jesus set the example—for us who believe. So if we are God's children we must follow the Lord of our Salvation. To follow means that "we are all one in Christ Jesus."

As already stated, John says that Christ said, "... whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak" (John 12:50). Since Jesus was speaking what His Father gave, we are sure that the will of the Father was done. The words spoken, and the acts performed, were of the Father's will. "I have glorified thee on the earth. I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do" (John 17:4). Jesus said what His Father wanted Him to say, and He did what His Father wanted Him to do. Among these things was the washing of the disciples' feet, and the informing of the disciples of their duty concerning the "EXAMPLE." Will any one say that Jesus Christ deviated from His Father's command when He washed His disciples' feet? Hardly. According to Christ this "OUGHT" came from the Father.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name cast out devils? And in thy name done many works? and then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house

upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock" (Matthew 7:21-25).

One cannot go wrong by doing what Jesus said do. "If ye know these things happy are ye if ye do them." To be happy there must be a consciousness of the acceptance of submission, and obedience to Christ. Love and unity must function in the life of the individual who professes to follow Christ. A life founded on Christ, will not fail "... It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). So Christ "Spake as the Father gave commandment." The words spoken in John 13 came from the mouth of God. Christ says that "We are to live by the Word." That is, we should be obedient to every command of the Father. With this KNOWLEDGE, how can we refuse to do what Jesus says that we "OUGHT to do," when He makes the doing "AN EXAMPLE"—a duty—an obligation—a precedent with the assurance of "happiness if we obey?"

### CONCLUSION

It is a settled fact that Jesus Christ instituted the ordinance of "washing the saints' feet." He is our origin—our founder—our pattern and example. We are to follow Him. Further it is clear, and cannot be denied, that the Apostle Paul taught and commanded the "washing of the saints' feet," and this being about thirty-two years after the Resurrection. Historians tell us that there have been a people from the apostolic day who were Baptist. The faith of these Baptist Christians caused many of them to be put to death, and they suffered and died proclaiming Christ. "The Welsh Historians assert, that one thousand two hundred ministers and delegates were murdered at one time, and many more afterwards because they would not submit to infant baptism." I shall not go into history; however, I will say that those who are acquainted with Church history know that feet washing is mentioned by all leading historians. Robinson's History of Baptism assures us that the early

Greek church held to the rite, or practiced the ordinance. Bingham speaks of feet washing as a rite—an ordinance, in the Early Church. Chrysostom in his comment on John 13 says, "Let us then wash one another's feet," again he says that some say, that "If we wash, then we must wash our domestics." That is, that they would have to wash the feet of "the house servant," if they washed. So you can see that in the Early Church there were some who were intimating, actually saying in substance, that it was a little too much for the greater, or the owner of a servant to wash the servants' feet, so in the Early Church some were objecting; but their objecting was upon grounds contrary to the teaching of Christ. Christ the Lord and Master washed His disciples' feet. Augustine wrote concerning John 13:14 saying, "We have learned, brethren, humility from the highest; let us, as humble, do to one another what He, the Highest, did in His humility." But, suppose that there was no history at all to confirm the statement that the early church did wash feet, is it not enough to settle the question, to KNOW that Jesus did it, and said that we "OUGHT" TO DO IT.

Here is the doctrine, as we might say in a nut-shell. "If I then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye also OUGHT to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, (something to go by), that ye should do as I have done unto you." May we as Free Will Baptists—the people who have followed the precepts from the apostolic age—never refuse to follow the "EXAMPLE." We say, "We believe in every ordinance of the New Testament, that is, We believe in doing just as the Lord taught us to do, so may we continue "In the old paths," the way our Saviour has gone. May we ever LOVE one another. "If ye KNOW these things happy are ye if ye do them." ❖



## CHILDREN'S HOME

**D**uring Vacation Bible School, the Youth group of Gum Swamp Church, Greenville NC, chose to collect pennies for the children of the Children's Home. On their visit of August 25, they presented our Home a check for \$300.00.

Each member was given a tour of our campus and visited with the residents of Smith Cottage. A special thanks goes to these remarkable young leaders for their



hard work and dedication. Gum Swamp should be very proud. ❖



**D**evotion, song, smiles, and ice cream —what a great combination! Members of Hopewell Church, Smithfield NC, provided our children with exactly that on September 9. We would like to thank each of these caring Christians for bringing smiles to our residents. Thank you for being part of our family. ❖



**T**he Crusader's Sunday School Class of First Church of Greenville, NC visited our campus on August 9, graciously supplying

large book bags for our residents. They made sure that each child had a new

book bag for their first day of school. Each were given a tour of our campus, before returning home. ❖



## Sisters United Again

**A**t the beginning of summer 2001, Jessica and Cynthia were not sure where they would go or where they would live during the months they were out of college. There was no family to return to and they assumed no home to go. But they were wrong.

The staff of the Children's Home made sure these sisters stayed together.



They were brought back to Middlesex, NC, and provided an apartment on our campus. They worked public jobs to help support themselves. Needless to say, we were all glad to welcome them back. Our campus is their home always. In August 2001, Jessica returned to her second year at UNC, Asheville, NC and Cynthia returned to her third year at Barton College, Wilson NC. What an honor to be their family. ❖

**M**embers of Spring Hill Church and Spring Hill Woman's Auxiliary of Goldsboro stopped by August 25 to deliver donations collected and provided by the Woman's Auxiliary. Thank you again for remembering our children. ❖



**T**he Exchange Club of Wilson, NC, treated residents and staff to hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and dessert on September 10. These caring individuals faithfully give of their time every year. Thanks again! ❖



# Join Our Family for Christmas

Dear Friends:

Christmas is so very special. A time for friends and family. Children sharing their achievements with grandparents and learning of Christmas past. When the hustle and bustle of shopping and holiday preparation is done, we look forward to those quiet moments of sharing the special joy of our gift-of-family.

Many of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home children can't remember a special year or gift. For them Christmas has been filled with uncertainty, violence and neglect.

Christmas at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is always a new world for the children we serve. Many of our children have never experienced the many simple pleasures and joys of a happy Christmas. For many reasons, their holidays lack the luster and brilliance of family gatherings, home-cooked "goodies", and gifts from the heart.

This holiday season we ask for your help. You can help by contributing \$100 for each child you would like to sponsor. This is a good project for youth groups, Woman's Auxiliaries, Layman Leagues, Sunday School classes, or other church groups. We invite you to make this Christmas special for a child. Sim-

## Free Will Baptist Children's Home Sponsorship Reservation Form



Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children We Would Like To Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

*Cut Out and Mail Form To:*

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.  
P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557-0249

ply complete the Sponsorship Reservation form below and return it to us by December 3, 2001. ❖

## CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Washers
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games
- ☐ 8 oz. Plastic Glasses
- ☐ TV's
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Various Size Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD Rom Encylopedias
- ☐ Cordless Telephones
- ☐ VCR's
- ☐ Dryers
- ☐ Adult size Bike Helments

## Invitation

The Board of Directors Invite You and Your Guests to Our Annual Luncheon for Friends of Children Appreciation Day

**Whitley Center, Saturday, November 10, 2001, 12:00 noon**

Keynote Speaker: Dr. K. David Hines, Chairman,  
Religion Department, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC  
Special Music: Covenant—RSVP by: November 1, 2001

**Number in Party for Lunch \_\_\_\_\_**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Cut out and return to:**  
**Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.,**  
**PO Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557-0249**





## MACEA Workshop Promotes Christian Education *by Carla Combs*

**C**hurches today are finding it increasingly difficult to hold on to the young people in their congregations. So often, children lose interest in attending services, particularly Sunday school, as they grow into adolescence and adulthood. Inadequate programs that do not offer age-appropriate material and activities can leave children bored and unfulfilled.

According to Mrs. Mary Dudley, director of Sunday School Ministries, churches throughout all denominations are in need of dedicated individuals willing to commit themselves to teaching a Sunday school class or lead a youth group. Many of the adults who do take on leadership roles find themselves searching for better ways to reach young people. They, too, may become discouraged because of lack of time, poor pastoral support, or inadequate educational tools.

These concerns and more were addressed on August 18, 2001, at the Eastern North Carolina Christian Education Training Conference. This event is sponsored each year by the Mid-Atlantic Christian Education Association (MACEA). The 2001 convention was held at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center in New Bern, NC.

The day began with registration and a message from the Rev. David Charles Hansley. From 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM convention attendees took in five one-hour workshops of their choosing. There were fifty workshops in all. The topics ranged from Bible study, working with specific age groups, creative ideas for children and teens, legal issues, music, women's issues, Sunday school organization, and disability ministries, etc.

In between workshops, the attendees could browse at vendor displays. Many vendors offered supplies and information that churches could use in their Sunday schools and youth groups. Box lunches were provided by Schlotzsky's Deli.



*Top: New Bern Riverfront Convention Center provided spacious room for the workshops, vendors, and a gorgeous view of the water. Bottom Left: The Free Will Baptist Press offered a large selection of classroom accessories for Sunday Schools and youth groups. Bottom Right: Stephen James (left) autographed books.*

Mrs. Mary Dudley and Angel Lorton were co-directors of the 2001 convention. They were both well-pleased with the participation of 325 people from over fifty churches and from a dozen denominations. Pastors, Sunday school administrators, and laypersons were present.

"Over seventy-five percent of the churches were Original Free Will Baptist. Our initial goal was around 250 attendees and we kept upping it. We were truly blessed. We had many businesses to donate their services," stated Mrs. Dudley. She went on to explain how the workshops could benefit churches and teachers and the need for continual education in Christian ministry.

Dixie McLawhorn and Catherine Gaskins of Pleasant Hill Original Free Baptist Church attended the convention in order to learn more about how to make their youth group and Sunday school more effective.

McLawhorn says the workshops led by Stephen James, a renowned youth leader and book author, was a favorite for her. She believes she gained many innovative ideas and tools that she can utilize at her church.

"I was like 'wow!' This is great. The workshops offered so many ideas on how to impact the lives of our young people for Jesus Christ," she stated. "I plan to go again next year and encourage others to do so as well." ❖



## No One Can Stop the Plan of God

by Pastor Eder Peralta,  
Free Will Baptist Church, Brooke's Point

**I**n these last days, I really feel the urgency to get the Gospel out. That's the reason I remain in the task God has given me. Maasin Free Will Baptist Church is the fruit of our labor. Our main church in Balacan has extended their support for this outreach and by the grace of God, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the work is still continuing.

Last May 2001, I baptized six persons. The new believers desire to walk in the new way of life. The salvation of the lost depends on our commitment to share the Word of God with a lost world. Let us continue to work together until the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. ❖



Above: Baptismal service held in Maasin River, officiated by Rev. Eder Peralta.

## Summer In Sabinas Team No. 2

*"...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40).*

**T**he second team made their way to Mexico on June 30. We visited Monclova on Sunday morning and had an open-air service on the grounds behind the church building. There was wonderful music and testimonies from team members and the young people of the Aposento Alto Free Will Baptist Church (Upper Room). Following the service, we had a delicious meal prepared by Ricarda Montoya and the church members. On Sunday night, we traveled to Rosita for the anniversary celebration of the Shalom Free Will Baptist Church.

This week our work team was involved in the finishing work of the Bien Pastor Free Will Baptist Church (Good Shepherd) in Sabinas. The building was wired, sheetrock was placed on the ceiling and sprayed, walls were painted on the inside, windows and doors were installed, and boxing was partially completed on the outside. This team feverishly dug ditches for the sewage line.



This was tough work in such h-a-r-d, r-o-c-k-y, d-r-y soil.

Our delicious noon meal was pre-

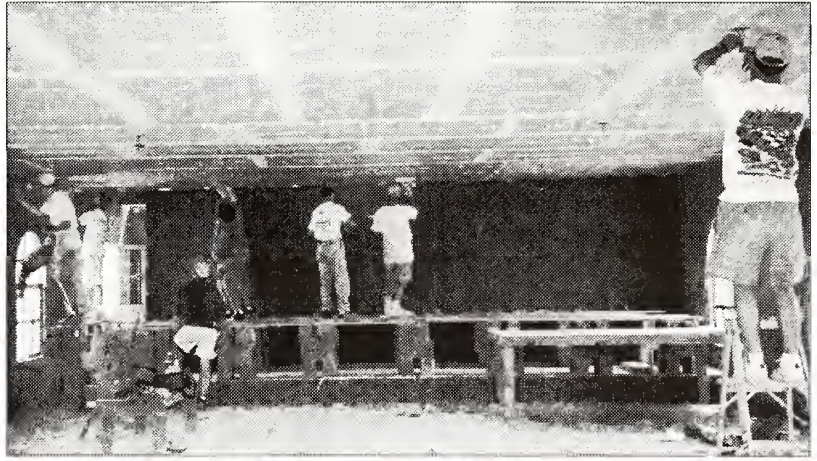


pared each day by the women of the church. Every day was a new and exciting experience as we sampled (and gobbled up) authentic Mexican cuisine. "Thank you, ladies."

The other team members were in-

*continued on page 15*





*continued from page 14*

involved in a variety of ministries during the week. They ministered through Vacation Bible School, Bible studies, and tract distribution. They visited a nursing home and an orphanage where two young girls trusted Christ as their Savior. To God be the glory!

On July 5, the women and teenagers distributed tracts and invitations in the neighborhood surrounding the Bien Pastor Church in Sabinas. The invitations were for the children to attend Vacation Bible School in July while the third team would be in Mexico. This was Mrs. Timmons' birthday, but she did not tell us until later. She said, "This was the best birthday I ever had, because I had such joy in passing out the tracts."

God puts these teams together for His will and glory. We praise the Lord for everyone. ❖



## December Is Foreign Missions Month

The month of December has been designated by the Convention as Foreign Missions Month. During this month, as every month, we encourage churches and individuals to remember this ministry in prayer and to emphasize missions during your Worship Services. We also ask you to remember Foreign Missions with a special gift this month. These special gifts enable the Board to continue its ministry on behalf of all Free Will Baptist Churches to take the Gospel Message to the ends of the earth.





# New Heights Cragmont: From View To Vision

**S**ince its founding in 1945 by the Original Free Will Baptists, Cragmont Assembly has been a place of fellowship, inspiration, and discipleship. A place where our youth learn of the Gospel. A place where lives are changed and commitments are made.

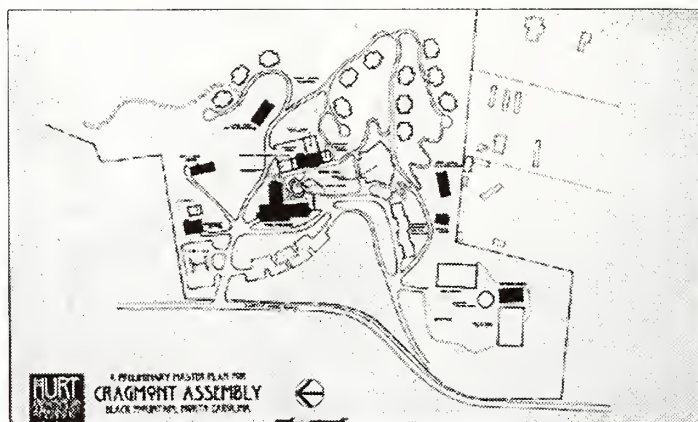
Today, as we hear the name "Cragmont," a special "view" comes to the mind's eye accompanied by certain feelings of nostalgia. One view could be the "Tabernacle" with sawdust floor or another might be the old white, main house. Whatever your view may be, I call upon you to move from that view to "vision." In order to continue its ministry effectively, Cragmont must expand. More beds are needed, so campers are not turned away. The existing chapel space has been too small for a number of years. There is a distinct need for more conference and classroom space. And recreational facilities are needed to expand camp activities.

To meet these needs, a Master Plan has been created that will give us twelve new lodge buildings. These buildings will allow us more bed space and give us the much needed classroom space. A gym and swimming pool will enhance the camping experience. A large worship center will be built into the hillside off from the dining hall to accommodate larger numbers. Enlarging the dining hall and kitchen is also addressed by the master plan.

The cost to carry out this master plan has been projected at \$5 million dollars. To raise that sum, Cragmont has unveiled a five-year capital campaign, "New Heights." For each \$1000 pledge, a stone will be placed on the Cragmont campus. Our goal is to move 5,000 stones—1000 a year, to the mountain during this fundraising campaign. These stones will eventually be used in the campus expansion and landscaping.

There are four distinct levels of giving to the New Heights campaign. As a "Cutter of Stone," one pledges \$1,000; an "En-

graver of Stone," \$2,500; \$5,000 for the "Polisher of Stone," and \$10,000 for the "Setter of Stone." Each pledge can be divided among the five years. A pledge to New Heights will also be a long-lasting



one, with 10% of each gift going to an endowment that will help cover Cragmont's daily operating costs and upkeep of existing and future buildings. This is called the "Solid Rock Endowment."

Five million dollars sounds like a great

deal of money to raise, and it is. We can make this a difficult task or an easy one. If it is broken down in small pieces, one will be surprised how easy it can be done. It has been said that there are forty thousand Original Free Will Baptists in our denomination. All we need are five thousand of those forty thousand to give \$1000 each, spread over five years and the money is raised. That amounts to approximately forty-nine cents per day for five years. Cragmont needs you!

Your investment in Cragmont goes beyond new buildings and a swimming pool. It is an investment in our denomination and its ministry. It is an investment in the lives of the youth who come to camp each year, and in the lives of those who attend the conferences, seminars, and retreats. And, maybe most important, it is a gift that will continue to change lives for generations to come. ♦

## Capital Campaign Gift Plan

I/we want to help shape the future of Cragmont. Here is my gift to New Heights, the Cragmont Capital Campaign, for the expansion, improvement, and preservation of Cragmont Assembly.

My one-time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

**Mail to: Cragmont Assembly  
1233 North Fork Rd.,  
Black Mountain, NC 28711**

A total gift of \$10,000 during the five-year campaign.

- ☐ My \$10,000 gift is enclosed.
- ☐ \$2,000 per year is for five years by giving: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually
- ☐ My first payment is enclosed.

A total gift of \$5,000 during the five-year campaign.

- ☐ My \$5,000 gift is enclosed.
- ☐ \$1,000 per year is for five years by giving: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually
- ☐ My first payment is enclosed.

A total gift of \$2,500 during the five-year campaign.

- ☐ My \$2,500 gift is enclosed.
- ☐ \$500 per year is for five years by giving: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually
- ☐ My first payment is enclosed.

A total gift of \$1000 during the five-year campaign.

- ☐ My \$1,000 gift is enclosed.
- ☐ \$200 per year is for five years by giving: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually
- ☐ My first payment is enclosed. ♦



## Cragmont Christmas I

**C**ragmont will be hosting its annual Cragmont Christmas trip on November 29 through December 2, 2001.

All the fun will begin on Thursday, November 29 with the trip from eastern North Carolina to Cragmont. After you arrive and get settled in, you will have the evening meal and then everyone will gather in the chapel for some get acquainted time and fellowship.

On Friday, after a wonderful Cragmont breakfast, we will load the bus and head out for Pigeon Forge, TN. You will enjoy a group lunch together at the Alabama Grill and then be given some shopping time. Next will come an evening of entertainment at the "Southern Nights Christmas Show."

On Saturday, we will enjoy a great breakfast at Cragmont before we adventure a little closer to home, staying in western North Carolina. Saturday evening will find us back at Cragmont for fellowship with "Covenant," a gospel group from eastern North Carolina.

On Sunday, after breakfast and a short devotion, you will head home.

This package includes lodging at Cragmont, all meals served at Cragmont, admission to the show, lunch at Alabama Grill, transportation to Cragmont and home again, as well as the side trips. ❖

## Cragmont Christmas II

**B**ecause of overwhelming interest in our Cragmont Christmas, we have added a weekday trip that will be from Monday, December 3, through Thursday, December 6, 2001.

All the fun will begin when you board the bus on Monday and head for the mountains. After arriving and settling in, you will enjoy a great supper in the dining hall and then gather in the chapel for some get acquainted and fellowship time.

Tuesday will bring great fun as we head to Pigeon Forge, TN, for a Christmas matinee at the Louise Mandrel Theater. Next will come a meal and show at the Dixie Stampede. Your meal there will consist of a tender whole rotisserie

chicken, hickory smoked barbecue pork loin, buttery corn on the cob, creamy soup, hot homemade biscuit, herb baked potato, flaky apple pastry and unlimited Pepsi, tea or coffee, so be hungry!

On Wednesday, we will head to downtown Black Mountain and lunch at the Red Rocker Inn. After lunch, there will be some shopping time and then on to the Asheville Mall.

On Thursday, following breakfast and a short devotion, you will head for home.

This package includes admission to both shows, dinner at the Dixie Stampede, lunch at the Red Rocker Inn, lodging at Cragmont, all meals served at Cragmont, transportation to Cragmont and home again, as well as the side trips.

You get **either one** for only \$225.00 per person. There is a non-refundable (within 30 days prior to trip) deposit of \$100.00 per person with your registration form. The balance of \$125.00 per person will be due upon arrival at Cragmont. ❖

## Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment: ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need a first floor room? \_\_\_\_\_

I am registering for: November 29 – December 2, 2001

☐ Cragmont Christmas I

December 3 – December 6, 2001

☐ Cragmont Christmas II

Mail to: Cragmont Christmas, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711



## Mount Olive College Honors Bridge Builders

**A**pproximately 500 people attended the 2001 Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, September 29, at Mount Olive College. The Dinner is the College's way of thanking contributors from Free Will Baptist churches throughout eastern North Carolina. This year's event was held in honor of 1,966 individuals and church organizations that contributed \$100 or more during 2000. The church dinner gift support program totaled \$455,000 last year.

"The Free Will Baptist Bridge Builders are an extremely important part of Mount Olive College. Bridge Builders have the power to build futures for students who attend our institution. We salute and thank these individuals," commented Dr. J. William Byrd, President of the College.

Jean F. Ackiss, director of Church Support, coordinated the dinner and served as mistress of ceremonies. "This is one of our best events of the year because it gives us a chance to show our appreciation to those special people who provide generous support to the College. Every gift is an investment in the lives of the

students we serve," Mrs. Ackiss remarked.

Junior Christina Thompson, a member

Press, everyone in attendance received a copy of a book entitled *Around the World: Aboard the Floating City*, written by Dr. Pepper Worthington, editor of the Mount Olive College Press. As a token of appreciation to those individuals who contribute \$100 or more during the 2001 Campaign, each Bridge Builder will be given a book entitled *A Short History of Mount Olive College*, written by Dr. W. Burkette Raper, who served 40 years as president of Mount Olive College (1954-1995), making him the longest tenured college president in the nation.

The highlight of the event was a presentation of Christian musical selections made by the Mount Olive

College Concert Choir and Free Spirit, under the direction of Dr. Alan Armstrong. Inspirational music was provided by Mount Olive College students Dale Belvin, Jimmie Frederick, and Shannon Mixon.

Student ambassadors helped serve the donors. Members of the staff and faculty served as table hosts and hostesses. The food was prepared and served by the Mount Olive College Food Services Department. ❖



of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County, shared her reasons for choosing to attend Mount Olive College. She also spoke on the opportunities provided to her at the College and the positive experiences she has had while in attendance. "I especially want to thank everyone here tonight. Without the financial support provided by Free Will Baptists, I would not be able to attend college," Thompson noted.

Courtesy of the Mount Olive College

## Students Gather in Prayer for Nation

**F**ollowing the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Mount Olive College students gathered for prayer on several occasions. Students also collected \$1,560.55 for the National Disaster Relief Fund and hosted a Blood Drive which collected 48 pints of blood. Pictured are students at a candle vigil held on Friday, September 14. ❖





## Brueggemann Speaks at Barrow Fund Lecture

**D**r. Walter Brueggemann, professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, was the guest speaker at Mount Olive College's Annual Barrow Family Endowed Fund Lecture. The event was held September 24 in Rodgers Chapel.

Brueggemann's first lecture was titled "Spiritual Values in the Book of Jeremiah." According to Brueggemann, the first part of the Book of Jeremiah was written during an "abyss," a time in which the Israelites felt God had forsaken them. He pointed out the use of war language, the description of a failed love relationship, images of sickness or illness, and language of funerals that the Book of Jeremiah used to help the Israelite people deal with their feelings of being forsaken.

"Jeremiah's God-given vocation was to help people experience, receive, and embrace the destruction of Jerusalem and the abyss as well as to help Israel imagine a future beyond the abyss," Brueggemann said.

Brueggemann also outlined the ways the second part of the Book of Jeremiah tried to help the Israelites plan, rebuild, and regain hope. He stated the major themes are of repentance, forgiveness without repentance, and continuity.

In the afternoon lecture entitled, "Spiritual Values in the Books of Kings," Brueggemann explored King Solomon's quest for power, the role of the prophets in the Books of Kings, and the kings mentioned in the Books of Kings who practiced power based on standards established by the Torah.

Brueggemann, an ordained clergyman and Biblical interpreter of international reputation, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Elmhurst College in 1955, a Bachelor of Divinity degree in Old Testament from Eden Theological Seminary in 1958, a Doctor of Theology degree in Old Testament from



*Above L to R: Dr. Lloyd Bailey, Barrow Professor of Biblical Studies; Dr. Walter Brueggemann, guest lecturer; and Dr. Tyanna Day, Assistant Professor of Religion. Back Row L to R: The Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister; Dr. David Hines, Chair of the Department of Religion; and Dr. J. William Byrd, President of Mount Olive College.*

Union Theological Seminary in 1961, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education from St. Louis University in 1974.

The Barrow Fund was established as a memorial to John Owen and Ida

Harrison Barrow, and in honor and in memory of their children. The Fund is used to help provide personnel, programs, and services for the advancement of Christian higher education. ❖

## Homecoming Weekend 2001... "Celebrating Our Heritage"

**H**undreds of alumni are expected to return to Mount Olive College November 16-18 to participate in Mount Olive College's Annual Homecoming Weekend.

Activities will tee off, midday Friday with the Annual Alumni Golf Tournament at Lane Tree Golf Club. Immediately following the tournament will be dinner, tournament awards and some great door prizes for golfers, their families and any alumni who would like to participate. Also, on Friday evening will be the tip-off to the Thirty-sixth Annual Pickle Classic Basketball Tournament.

Saturday's activities will feature the College's Fiftieth Anniversary Jubilee Celebration, which begins with a ceremony at 10:30 AM in College Hall. Lunch will be served in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center at noon. Class reunions will be held at 2:00 PM. The Pickle Classic consolation and championship games will begin at 6:00 and 8:00 PM respectively.

For more information, to make reservations, or to obtain tickets, please call Dianne Riley, director of Alumni Relations at (919) 658-2502 or e-mail driley@moc.edu. ❖



## Resolution Passed in NC House and Senate

**B**oth the House and Senate, in recognition of Mount Olive College's fiftieth anniversary, jointly ratified a resolution honoring the memory of the Rev. David Wells Hansley, one of the founders of Mount Olive College.

The resolution was passed on Monday, September 17, 2001 at the State Legislature in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Senator John Kerr and House Representative Phil Baddour spoke on behalf of the College. Both commended the College for its steadfast commitment to providing Christian higher education and the administration for their leadership and continuing dedication to the success of the College.

Members of the Mount Olive College staff, faculty, and alumni, along with representatives from the Free Will Baptist Church were present at the event. "I am very grateful for what my dad did for Mount Olive College. I am very ap-

preciative of the fact that he had the stamina and the desire to establish an educational institution, even in the face of adversity. I am also amazed at his commitment and how the Lord used him," stated the Rev. David Charles Hansley, general administrator of the Convention of Original Free

Will Baptists and son of the late David Wells Hansley. "Our family is very proud of the positions my father took to see that we, as a church, could have a liberal arts college," he continued. ❖



*Above L to R: Standing in front of the Legislative Building just prior to the passing of the resolution honoring the memory of the Rev. David Wells Hansley are family members: Thomas Woodall, Nettie Hansley Woodall, Sylvia Hansley, David Charles Hansley, Cynthia Hansley, Phil Hansley.*

## Mary Dudley Brings Message on God's Directions for Our Lives

**M**ary Dudley, director of the Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry, gave a message on God's directions for the Christian's life during the Tuesday morning chapel service the week of the Convention. Pulling information from *Life Directions* by Jane Kise and David Stark, Mrs. Dudley tied her message into the Convention's theme for this year: Responding to God's Call by Celebrating Our Heritage.

Mrs. Dudley read Psalm 139:9-10 that mentions God's hand guiding and directing Christians wherever they are. She compared the way homing pigeons are guided by instinct and the airplane pilots are guided by instrument panels to the way in which God guides Christians in making decisions.

Mrs. Dudley stated the four guidance systems God uses to guide Christians



are Scriptures, special design, the Holy Spirit, and circumstances. She stated the Bible serves as an operating manual for

Christians and the Holy Spirit guides Christians into an understanding of how the Scriptures apply to individuals. She also said that God gives each person specific gifts and shows them open and closed doors in order to guide them in God's plan.

"We need to look at a balance of all four and not get too engrossed in any one," Mrs. Dudley said. "When all systems are on go, then and only then can we keep our lives in the will of God. We must remember that finding the will of God is a process and not an event."

Others on the chapel program included the Rev. Frank Harrison, campus minister; Free Spirit, a 12-member Christian ensemble that presents the Gospel through Christian music; and the Rev. David C. Hansley, general administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. ❖



## History Presented at Convention

**I**n *the Beginning*, a reading reflection on the founding of Mount Olive College, was presented during the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The dialogue, written by Cecil L. Cahoon II, traced the College's history back to the founding and closing of Ayden Seminary and Eureka College at Ayden.

Quotes were pulled from articles, letters, published speeches, and interviews which discussed different stages of the College's development. The reflection described the denomination's steps in establishing Mount Allen Junior College at Cragmont Assembly and the College's move and growth in Mount Olive.

Participants in the reading all have direct ties to the College. Pictured

(front row, left to right): the Rev. David Charles Hansley, Dianne Riley, Happy Taylor, the Rev. Leon Grubbs, and Cecil Cahoon II. (Back row, left to right): the Rev. Ray Wells, Gary Barefoot, the Rev. Earl Glenn, the Rev. Stephen Prescott, and Dr. Michael Pelt.

Copies of *"In the Beginning"* will be available through the Free Will Baptist Press. ❖

## Openings for Spring 2002

**M**ount Olive College has openings for its spring 2002 semester. Students interested in transferring should contact Tim Woodard, director of Admissions at (919) 658-2502 or e-mail [twoard@moc.edu](mailto:twoard@moc.edu). Transfer Day is February 18, 2002. On this date students can talk with professors, coaches, and financial aid representatives. Spring 2002 applications should be submitted by December 15, 2001. ❖

### Correction

The location for the Craven County Dinner on Thursday, November 8, 2001 will be at **Juniper Chapel Church** near Vanceboro, not at West Craven High School as was reported in the October issue of *The Free Will Baptist*. ❖

Reservations are required and must be paid by November 26. Reservations do not guarantee a private table. Seating is limited to 330. \$12.00 adults, \$6.00 children 12 and under, (prices include beverage and tax). For more information, contact Brenda Edwards at (919) 658-2502.

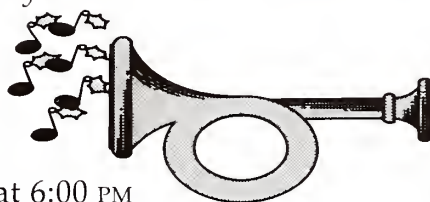
☐ Yes, I will attend the Christmas Buffet. ☐ Yes my payment is enclosed.

There will be \_\_\_\_\_ in my party and my check is enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$12.00 per adult, \$6.00 per child). Checks should be made payable to Mount Olive College. Reserved seating will be available **only** for parties of six or more.

Mail to: Christmas Buffet  
Mount Olive College  
634 Henderson Street  
Mount Olive, NC 28365

## Mount Olive College presents the *Eighth Annual Christmas Buffet* featuring music by the

*Mount Olive  
Community Ensemble*



Buffet to begin at 6:00 PM  
Musical performance to begin at 7:00 PM  
**Tuesday, December 4, 2001**  
**Lois K. Murphy Regional Center**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_



## Layman's League

### Layman's League News

by Randy Beaman

The Central Conference Layman's League met at King's Crossroads Original Free Will Baptist Church on September 10, 2001. We had 193 men in attendance. Sixteen pastors were present. The total offering for the evening was \$588.05. The offering will go to support Cragmont Assembly this year.

Tull Taylor of King's Crossroads hosted the meeting. The devotion was given by Jay Tripp (above) of King's Crossroads. The music was provided by the Marlboro Boys (top right).

We would like to welcome our newest member to the Central Conference Layman's League, Marlboro Original Free Will Baptist Church. Welcome men! We are glad to have you aboard!

The Rev. Bryant Hines (above), marketing director of Cragmont spoke to us about Cragmont. He challenged us to help in the renovation of the Cragmont Motel and in the new building program



at Cragmont. We have outgrown our facilities at Cragmont and need to expand in some areas if we are going to better serve our people and young people especially.

Other speakers for the evening were: the Rev. David Charles Hansley, general administrator of the Convention, the Rev. Frank Harrison of Mount Olive College, and Elmer Harrell, president of the State Layman's League. We would like to thank all these men for the information and challenges they gave to us.

Our new officers of the Central Conference are: Joe Panichelli, president 252-746-3262; Kenneth Bowen, vice president 252-746-4275; Jimmy Tripp, secretary 252-752-4838.

#### Future Church Meetings:

December	2001	Rose Hill
March	2002	Bethany
September	2002	Ormondsville
June	2002	Friendship
December	2002	open
March	2003	Gum Swamp

Thank you King's Crossroads for your hospitality and hosting our conference meeting. Thanks to Joe Panichelli who presided over the business meeting and to Kenneth Bowen and Jimmy Tripp. These three men have offered to help if you will just contact them. ❖



## Endowed Scholarship Fund

The North Carolina State Layman's League Endowed Scholarship Fund was established on May 12, 1984, at the annual session held at First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC.

The scholarships provide necessary funds for Free Will Baptist students who are preparing for the Christian ministry or other full-time church-related vocation.

Gifts through April 30, 2000, totaled \$13,776.57. Additional gifts through April 30, 2001, totaled \$1,552.50, with a grand total of \$15,329.07. ❖

## Dates To Remember

November 12—**Executive and Promotional Board** meeting 7:00 PM, VFW Building, Snow Hill, NC.

November 19—**Eastern Conference Layman's League**, Host, Whaley's Chapel Church, Meal 6:45 PM, Business, 7:30 PM.

December 3—**Central Conference Layman's League**. Host, Rose Hill Church, Meal 6:45 PM, Business, 7:30 PM.

December 10—**Executive and Promotional Board Meeting**. 7:00 PM, VFW Building, Snow Hill, NC. ❖

## News from Free Union Church Central Conference

by Randy Beaman

On September 8, 2001 members of the Layman's League of Free Union Church near Walstonburg cooked a pig to provide BBQ sandwiches later on that day at "Power Surge" at the First Church in Wilson. Some of these men also helped serve sandwiches and served at the rides as well. Thank you men for your time and effort! May God richly bless you! ❖



## Camp Vandemere

### Memorial Church Enjoys Spiritual Retreat

by Lexa Edwards Upton  
Memorial Original Free Will Baptist  
Church, Chocowinity, NC

**W**hat a tremendous blessing Camp Vandemere is to me, my family, our church family, and the Free Will Baptist denomination!

Our church family went to Camp Vandemere September, 7-9 for our yearly spiritual retreat. This has been an annual adventure for us since before the first building was put on the property. During our first stay, the women slept in the Gillikin house, and the men slept in a large red-and-white circus tent with several small holes in it—one large enough that some of the girls ran a water hose through it and wet Richard Potter's cot. Luckily, my parents were living in a mobile home on the property, and my mother loaned Richard liners for a dry bed.

In 1978, our daughter Sabrina was saved while spending a week at camp. Brother Ralph Sumner brought the evening message and some of our group accepted the Lord, including our niece Ann Marie Edwards. And now in 2001, we were blessed to have our granddaughter Brittany attend a week of camp under the leadership of Mrs. Eva Mae Clark, and our granddaughter was saved on Thursday night when the Rev. Mike Williams preached a very stirring sermon, while building a cross. After Brittany returned from camp, I found a drawing that she had done with a hill and three crosses on it. Underneath it she had written, "For Me!"

When our group went down in September, our pastor, the Rev. Owen Arthur, baptized our Brittany, Kelly Edwards, and Mrs. Nancy Jefferson in the new pool. Needless to say, this was a very emotional time for us. We had a large group from our church attending the Baptism, and then we all enjoyed a wonderful

*"Send out thy light and truth...  
" Psalm 43:3*

meal of barbecued chicken cooked by Mr. Ronald Lupton, and lots of other good food furnished by the women in our church.

On Sunday morning, our pastor's wife taught an outstanding Sunday school lesson to those in attendance, including a very funny song honoring the grandparents, since this was Grandparents' Sunday.

Our spiritual retreat is often the highlight of the whole year for our church. Those of us who have been blessed to attend over the years can hardly wait to pack up and go for the weekend, and with the new pool our young people look like prunes by the end of the weekend. We can hardly get them out of the pool long enough to eat!

We recommend that every church plan such a weekend. It's so much fun to dress casually and just enjoy the fun and fellowship.

My husband and I spent our weekend enjoying the facilities in the Family Lodge. It's so nice to have your own private bath, and to be able to get away for sleep where it's a little quieter than staying in the dorm; however, we have some who just love to stay in the dorm.

If you are a member of the Light-house Keepers Club (give \$12.00 per

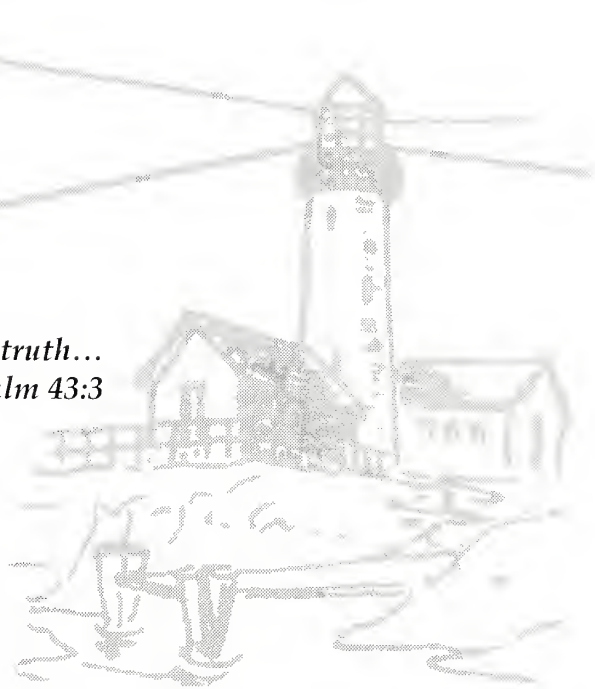
month), you get to stay in the lodge two nights free, or you can send a child to summer camp free. This is wonderful way to benefit the camp, while either enjoying the facilities yourself, or sending a child for a week of good spiritual fun and fellowship.

I would like to urge all of our churches to include Camp Vandemere in your budget. If only one child had been saved there, it would make it worthwhile—but over the years we have had a large number of people saved.

I urge you to pray for Camp Vandemere and to avail yourself of its facilities. If you like to camp, they have campsites wired for RVs, there's a large lighted pier for fishing, and paddle boats for the whole family to enjoy.

You can even enjoy the facilities during the winter months. Each building is heated, as well as the Family Lodge. Youth leaders, this would be a wonderful place to have a winter retreat for your young people.

Camp Vandemere is "The Place" for a fantastic getaway! Why not call the Rev. Mike Williams and book a time today! ❖





## News From Pleasant Hill Church, Grimesland, NC

by Dixie McLawhorn

Most members of many Free Will Baptist churches would probably agree that the last few months of the year are full of church activities in which to participate. And so it is at Pleasant Hill.

Excitement is in the air! Throughout the month, we have been meeting weekly, making all kinds of crafts for our annual Fall Bazaar/Dinner/Auction, which will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2001. The Bazaar will be from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Dinner will start at 5:30 PM, and the Auction will get going at 7:00 PM. A hand-stitched, queen-sized quilt, done by our ladies and friends at Timothy Christian Church, Gardnerville, NC, is ready and tickets are selling like hotcakes!

We have also been very blessed on Wednesday nights with a lengthy, but well planned, and well received slide presentation of the trip to the Holy Land the church sent our pastor, the Rev. Grady Tucker, and his wife, Barbara on this past March. Each Wednesday night kept getting better and better! Mrs. Barbara said there were many things about the trip she enjoyed (and some things she would rather not have happened), but the one thing that made her feel the closest to our Lord was when she entered a tomb, near the Place of the Skull, that was very likely His burial place. The slides of the "skull" in the side of the hill and the actual tomb, which was used only once, made you feel like you were actually there, and a sense of true reverence came over the congregation at that point in the presentation. You could see in Mrs. Barbara's face how she was remembering what it was like to have been there and to have walked in places where Jesus walked. It was a very special time.

Our Ladies' Auxiliary took a trip on the "Highway to Heaven" (the name of our outreach program) to the Bishop Home, a retirement villa, in New Bern, NC, on September 11, 2001. This was our second trip to the Bishop Home, and the ladies were as happy to see us as we were to see them. We were sad as well, because

that was the day of infamy when the attack on America took place at the hands of suicide terrorists. The ladies asked that we start the evening off by everyone singing *God Bless America*. We then were served a delicious variety of refreshments prepared by each of the ladies. Next, we sang several hymns and ended the night with prayer. We were invited back and are looking forward to visiting with them again.

Our Fall Revival services were held on Sunday through Thursday, September 16-20 with the Rev. Buddy Sasser of Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC, as our revival speaker. The number of people in attendance each night was greater this year than has been in a number of years. The tragic events that took so many lives in New York City, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania opened a lot of eyes and stirred the hearts of many people within our surrounding communities. For that we say "Hallelu-

jah!" But, at the same time, we grieve for those who lost their lives and the families and friends they left behind. We pray that a true revival will occur throughout our nation, turning hearts and lives over to Jesus, who will be the One to give "... the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, ..." (Philippians 4:7).

The month ended with a fifth Sunday night singing, with 14-year-old Nathan Carlson from Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Chocowinity, NC. The pews were packed with members and visitors alike who enjoyed the songs.

During a brief intermission, the Camelot Sunday School class president, David Boyd, Sr. presented plagues of recognition to Carrie Lee Haddock, Lila Mae Adams, and Margie Stanley in honor of their many years of faithful service to the Lord. And the evening was made complete with refreshments in the fellowship hall. Everyone enjoyed food, friends, and fellowship. ❖

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Cushions † Choir Robes † Baptistries † Tables  
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## Oak Grove Presents Scholarship

by Willa Dean Daughtry

During the worship hour on September 16, Oak Grove Church, Newton Grove, NC, the chairman of the deacon board presented Joshua Hudson with the first Oak Grove Church Scholarship. This scholarship is funded by Larry and Faye Warren of Garner, NC. Larry is a former member of Oak Grove and still has family ties with the church. Students who wish to continue their education beyond high school, and who are active members of Oak Grove, can apply for this scholarship.

Joshua is a graduate of Hobbton High School and is the son of Philip Hudson of Newton Grove and Jo Ellen Hudson of Kentucky. Joshua grew up always exhibiting a willing spirit to serve, a respect for others, and a desire to achieve. He was



Above: Phillip Hudson, Joshua Hudson, Carl Warren, Larry Warren, and Faye Warren.

awarded the Eagle Scout Merit Badge and is currently enrolled at Sampson Community College, with plans to continue his education at a school in the university system.

Oak Grove is proud that Josh is part of our church family. We pray that God will always direct him as he continues on toward adulthood. ❖

## News From Everett Chapel

by Joyce U. Hill

Everett Chapel Church, Clayton, NC, held its Homecoming Service on September 13, 2001, celebrating its ninety-eighth year. Pastor Lloyd F. Hargis greeted members and guests.

A memorial service was held honoring members who had gone to be with the Lord since last Homecoming. They were: Dorothy Carter, read by LaVern Carter; Alva Johnson, read by neice, Sharon Baucom; Lena Lee, read by son, George Lee; Elsie Spence, by H. B. Strickland; and Prentice Underwood, by Joyce Hill. The Rev. Braxton Carter, who was called into the ministry from Everett Chapel under the leadership of Dr. Billy R. Yawn, delivered the Homecoming message, which was followed by lunch in the Spiritual Life Building. After a time of fellowship, a Singspiration began at 1:45, featuring singers from Everett Chapel, Trinity Church, and Powhatan. The service was concluded by the the congregation joining together in singing praise choruses.

The congregation and Pastor Lloyd F.

Hargis enjoyed and were blessed in the revival services held September 24-28.

Special music was rendered throughout the week by the adult choir, youth choir, and various groups and individuals from different churches.

The Rev. Philip Boykin, pastor of Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn, NC, was the revival speaker. His messages, taken from 1 Chronicles 7:14, Luke 17:5-10, Ezra 10:4; Luke 17:5-10, Ephesians 2:1-10, and Joshua 24:14-28, challenged everyone to recommitment to the Lord and to serve Him with a joyful heart.

The church is planning its one hundredth birthday on September 28, 2003. All former members are encouraged to donate any information they may have which would be useful in compiling history for a memory book; such as, old pictures of special events, people, or other information that would be vital to this celebration. Anyone who has information about the

## Youth Rally for Christ

Eastern Conference, Fifth Union, Youth for Christ Rally will be held at Oriental Original Free Will Baptist Church, Oriental, NC, November 10, 2001, 7:00 PM. Six churches are currently attending the rallies and we want to invite others to join us too! Anyone interested in learning more about the Youth for Christ Rally may contact Gail Barton at 252-672-5697. ❖

## Wanted!

### Opportunities to Serve Christ

Do you need a speaker for your

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- Study course
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- Special event

If so, contact:

Becky Jo Sumner

450 NC 561 E

Ahoskie, NC, 27910

Phone: 252-332-6810.

Cost—a love gift to help curtail expenses would be appreciated. ❖

Church's founder, the Rev. Bill Everett, or any living relatives would be appreciated. (Pictures must be marked on the back with names and addresses so they can be returned.)

If anyone has information about a fire at Everett Chapel in the early 1900s, please let us know. A fire was mentioned in a biography on Rev. Everett, prepared by Lawrence Higgins in 1975, but nothing has been found to document it.

Please take time to research your memorabilia and send it to: Linda Blackmon, 911 Pond Street, Clayton, NC 27520. This information is needed as soon as possible.

We are delighted to welcome Troy Lee, Jr. as our Youth Director, as of September 1, 2001. He and his team of workers are very excited about what the Lord is doing at Everett Chapel. All youth are invited to join them for services each Wednesday evening at 7:15, and for other special events. ❖



## Church Pledges Support to President

**L**ittle Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, NC, on September 20, 2001, sent this letter to President George W. Bush and the members of Congress listed on the bottom of this letter.

Other churches and /or church groups are urged to do the same by adapting this letter to fit your particular location. ❖

### Churches & Ministers Available

*NOTE : This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)*

**New Bethlehem Original Free Will Baptist Church**—Pamlico County, Grantsboro, NC, is also seeking a full-time pastor. This church is committed to having three services per week, has a solid nucleus of young people and young couples, mixed with faithful senior citizens. Contact may be made to Frank Owen, 252-745-5449.

**Saint's Delight Original Free Will Baptist Church**—is seeking a full-time pastor. The church is located right outside of Bridgeton, NC, near New Bern, NC. Only presently ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers should apply. If interested, send resumes to George Smith, Pulpit Committee Chairman, PO Box 461, Bridgeton, NC 28519.

**Spring Hope Original Free Will Baptist Church**—located near Bridgeton, Craven County, is seeking a full-time pastor. Only ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers need apply. Anyone interested in this position may submit a resume to: Sam Tyson, 375 Truitt Rd., New Bern, NC, 28560 or call Mr. Tyson at 252-636-5740. ❖

September 20, 2001

President George W. Bush  
The President of the United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D. C., USA

Dear Mr. President:

We, the members of Little Creek Free Will Baptist Church, (Membership of 137) do humbly write this letter as a sign of our support and of our readiness to stand with you and the leaders of our great nation as we confront together the evil perpetrated against us by fanatical terrorists who place no value on human life. Like all Americans, we have watched and listened to the unimaginable horror as it unfolded itself upon the innocent ordinary citizens of our country. Through tears and anger, we have absorbed the unbelievable scenes that have been inflicted upon us.

While we believe that love is stronger than hate and though we believe that it is God's will "as far as possible to live peaceably with all people," we realize that peace can and has been shattered by those who feed on the frenzy of hatred. It is one thing to turn the other cheek when individuals personally assault us; it is something else when our citizens are murdered in mass and are told that our destruction is that which these mad bombers desire more than all else. According to *Time Magazine* (September 24, 2001 issue), Osama Bin Laden said in a fatwa issued in 1996, "[Our] youths only want one thing, to kill you so they can go to paradise."

It is out of mutually shared pain and sorrow that we write to inform you that we pledge our support to you in both prayer and fidelity of purpose. We ask that Almighty God might give you wisdom and discernment as you seek to lead us. May we do all that is humanly possible to protect the innocent of all nations, but with equal fervor let us seek to return justice to the world by holding accountable those who would seek to destroy the most basic tenets of our freedom and our love for liberty and life.

Our prayer shall be that your thoughts and actions will be guided by the Holy Spirit and that you might be a useful instrument of God's will as you seek to lead our nation, indeed the entire world.

Faithfully yours,

Frank Flowers, Pastor

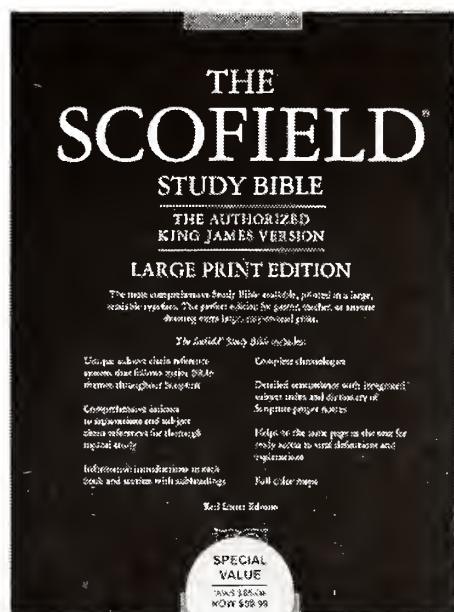
Deacons of the Church:

Pc: U. S. Senator Jesse Helms  
U. S. Senator John Edwards  
U. S. Congressman Walter Jones, Jr.  
U. S. Congresswoman Eva Clayton

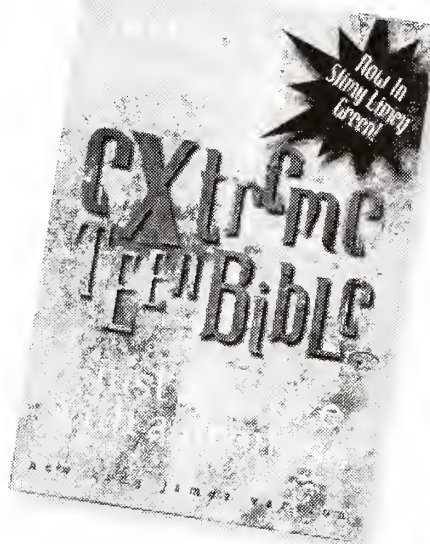


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The editorial staff of the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some suggestions for making the process easier.

1. Type all copy, **(please, no handwritten)**. Use 8 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x 11 inch paper.
2. Keep a copy of material (include your phone number so the staff may call if there are questions about your copy).
3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches from the top of the page. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page, and for the convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on only one side of the paper. **Please do not type in all caps.**
4. Leave a margin of at least one inch on both sides of the paper.
5. Write no more than one article to a page.
6. Clip pages together, using a paper clip. Do not staple pages.
7. Read, reread, and correct your own copy.
8. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation.
9. Prepare your articles and report as far in advance as possible. Articles for publication should be in the hands of the editor by the **fifth** of the month proceeding the date of publication. (Example: Items for the December issue must be in by the fifth of November, etc.)
10. **Photos will not be returned** unless requested and only when returned postage is provided. Do not use tape on the photos or write directly on the back of the pictures.
11. Feature articles should be limited to no more than six double-spaced, typed pages.
12. Registration forms will be printed **in no more than two issues**, and only one unless requested to do so.
13. Full-page announcements will be printed **in only two issues**. If more than two printings are necessary, it will be reduced to one or two columns.
14. Please do not send camera-ready articles. It is better if we set material in our own style, etc.
15. Please remember that the editor makes the final decision as to whether an article should be published or not. Articles and items that are not dated, may be printed in a later issue.
16. Send articles to: The Editor, The Free Will Baptist Press, PO Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513-0159.
17. If you would like to E-mail your copy to us, please contact C. H. Overman, Editor, at 252-746-6128.

We express our appreciation to the churches and individuals who provide us with the news items and articles for publication. You are helping us to record a history of our denomination. Please keep up the good work. We will do our part to serve you through the pages of *The Free Will Baptist*.





Dr. Pepper Worthington

**W**hy read Augustine?

What does he

have to tell us from the fourth century? David Hazard believed Augustine may kindle an inner fire within readers today. Hazard declares: "In Augustine, I've found a trusted companion in the upward journey with God — trusted, because he is my friend and God's friend too. His honesty and love builds a fire against the darkness in me. His warnings remind me to seek God 'early' in all my dealings" (13).

Hazard admits why he has come to Augustine to read his works: "I have come to Augustine to ask just one thing of him: What did he know about the living presence of God — 'God with us' — that made his own life flame so intensely?" (13).

### How to Grow Closer to God

Augustine tells us how to grow closer to God. He suggests six things: (1) "set your heart on attaining a closer walk with God" (48), (2) "decide that all earthly, fragile and temporal things are hateful if they keep you from progressing in faith" (48), (3) seek "the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus" (48), (4) "set the eyes of your soul upon God alone" (48), (5) be not "overly pleased by seeking earthly gains, nor upset when losses occur" (48), (6) "sell some of your excess and give to help those who are in need" (48).

### How to Ascend to God

Augustine asks an important question: "Where do we begin our journey to God? How do we 'ascend' to Him? (19). First, man must descend before he may ascend. He must humble himself. He must practice obedience to God. Augustine writes: "Only when we take the same (as Jesus) position — obedience to God, patience in all that He

## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

*Augustine. Early Will I Seek You. Devotional readings arranged by David Hazard. Rekindling The Inner Fire Series. Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1987. 139 pages.*

leads us through—do we begin to 'ascend' in Him. In lowliness we find our heights. Those who want to ascend to spiritual heights without passing through the valley of humility find themselves turned back" (20).

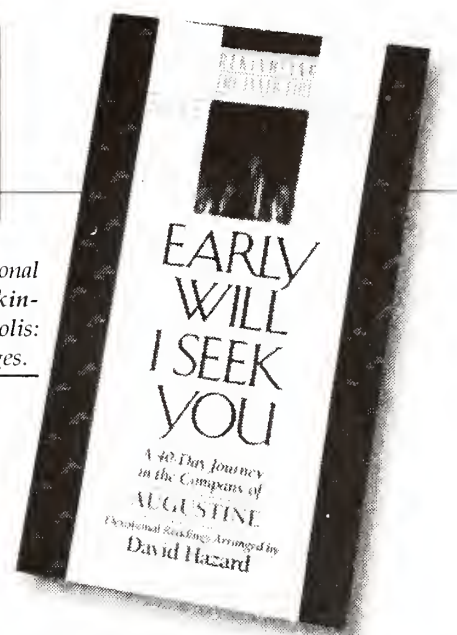
What else must be done to ascend to God? Augustine stresses following the steps of Jesus. Augustine writes: "So it is by following Christ's example that our souls can begin their spiritual pilgrimage. Jesus is our 'mountain of ascent'. He lived fully in the Word of God, and in this way — by being human before God — divinity showed forth in human flesh" (23).

### How to Have the Image of God In the Inner Man

Augustine asks the Holy Spirit to help him as he tries to suggest ways man might have the image of God in the inner man. He stresses six things: (1) "the manner of life" (54-55) we live, (2) "the state" of our "heart" (55), (3) coming to God "daily for spiritual power and strength (Philippians 2:13)" (55), (4) "sow good seed" (55), (5) "secret prayer" (55), (6) "meditation" (55). These are six disciplines which might build the strength of the image of God in the inner man. Augustine declares: "If you do not let your inner man waste away by neglect, then you will grow strong and vigorous inwardly" (56).

### How to Have God With Us

How can we have God with us? What must it be like to know God is with us in this life? Augustine turns to his mentor, Bishop Ambrose, who reminds Augustine that "God reveals Himself and it is purely an act of grace" (69). The inner man must grow in ability to perceive God in all situations. We seek



God and God reveals Himself as an act of grace.

To explain God being with us, Augustine writes: "It is only by the life of God that we, the living, are even alive. Likewise, it is only under the operations of God's great over-arching will that we are allowed to move and make decisions (Acts 17:28). In this larger sense, no man is ever 'without' God" (62).

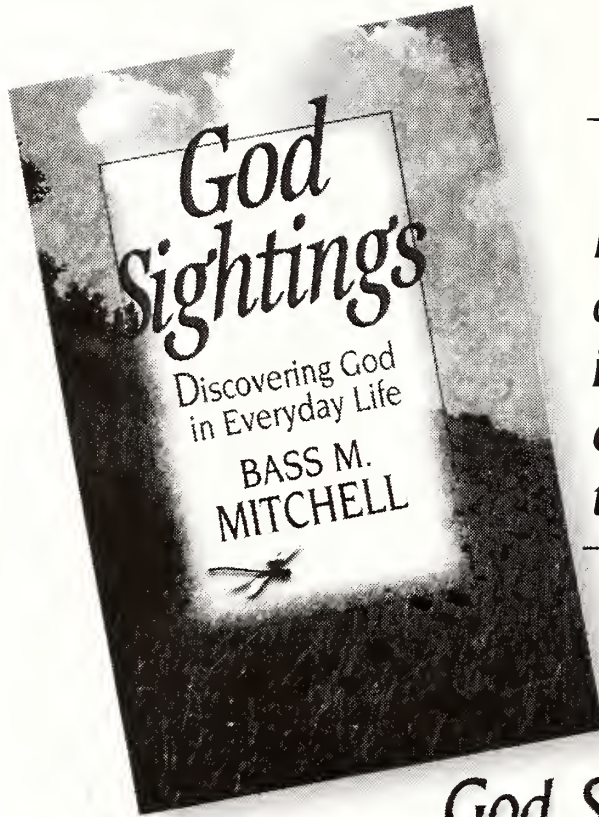
Augustine tries to clarify further what he means by having God with us. He writes: "Yet, all men — and we ourselves — are not always 'with Him' in the same sense in which God Himself speaks through the psalmist, saying, 'I am always with you' — and to which the psalmist replies, 'Yes, you hold me by the right hand' (Psalm 73:23). Nor is God 'with' all men in the well-meaning sense that you or I may have when we bless someone, saying, 'The Lord be with you'" (62).

When then is God with us? Augustine reminds us of the necessity of the inner man's spiritual discipline and the act of God revealing Himself to bring about the presence of God with us.

### Conclusion

Augustine's faith reminds us to look not to this world but to God's order for the peace that soothes. Augustine writes: "Who would dare to compare such a life lived under the sheltering peace of God with anything this world can offer?" (138). ❖





---

*When I was a teenager,  
I would go to church camp  
at Cragmont near Black Mountain  
in the Great Smoky Mountains  
of North Carolina ...so begins  
the introduction of a new book*

---

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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

DECEMBER 2001

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Blessed are the peacemakers:  
for they shall be called the  
children of God Matthew 5:9.



### The Prince of Peace



**H**ow often we have heard the statement, "There can be no peace without the Prince of Peace." For the Christian, this is a firm testimony concerning our Lord who declared, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27). Jesus was speaking to His disciples, seeking to comfort them and prepare them for the day He would no longer be with them. This was not the only time He sought to comfort His followers, urging them to have no fear. As we read and meditate upon His words, we know He desires the same for us.

What greater legacy could He bestow upon His followers than to grant them peace? A troubled heart indicates a lack of faith (of whatever degree) and trust in the Christ who has promised to be with us in all life's circumstances. Yet, the very fact that Jesus often addressed the matter of weak faith indicates that we humans are prone to doubt His promises, or at least to fully lean upon Him with such faith that we would live with trouble-free hearts.

The world cannot give the kind of peace that Jesus offers. It is peace that comes because sins are forgiven and the heart is cleansed—made so by the miraculous new birth from above. This the world cannot give.

We have heard repeatedly that the world longs for peace, but does it? Surely many do, but some do not. The pages of history record conflict after conflict between nations and peoples in all generations. At any period of time we read about wars and rumors of wars. Jesus spoke of such conditions as He answered the questions of the disciples, "...Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24:3). In Verses 6 and 7 Jesus stated, "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars... For nation shall raise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:..." Wars are fought and conflicts exist because of evil in the hearts of men, those who seek to destroy and conquer others. Thus, we find ourselves fighting the "War on Terrorism."

Among the titles given to Jesus by the Prophet Isaiah is "...The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). A prince is one who rules a principality and the son of a mon-

arch. How fitting! Jesus is the ruler of the principality of peace, but not a kingdom of this world. He is the Son of the Most High. His kingdom is established in the hearts of men—all those who receive Him—one by one. Remember the chorus we often sang as children, "I have the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart." This is the peace given by The Prince of Peace.

This Christmas will be different in many ways, but the intent and purpose of God is the same; He desires peace for all. Maybe during this Christmas season, we will once again focus on its true meaning and significance. It was the angelic hosts that proclaimed to the shepherds, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward man" (Luke 2:14). Our country has been attacked by the enemies of peace, by those who know not the Prince of Peace; however, we must continue to pray for peace in our world. We must pray for those whose hearts are filled with evil, that they may trust in this Prince of Peace. Meanwhile, we must continue to proclaim "...the gospel of peace,..." (Romans 10:15).

Amid our Christmas socials, our family gatherings, our church programs, and the many other activities of this Christmas season, may we truly devote ourselves to Him who is our peace, remembering the teachings of His Word concerning this peace:

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

"...to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6).

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost" (Romans 14:17).

"For he is our peace,..." (Ephesians 2:14).

Christ "...came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh" (Ephesians 2:17). ❖





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## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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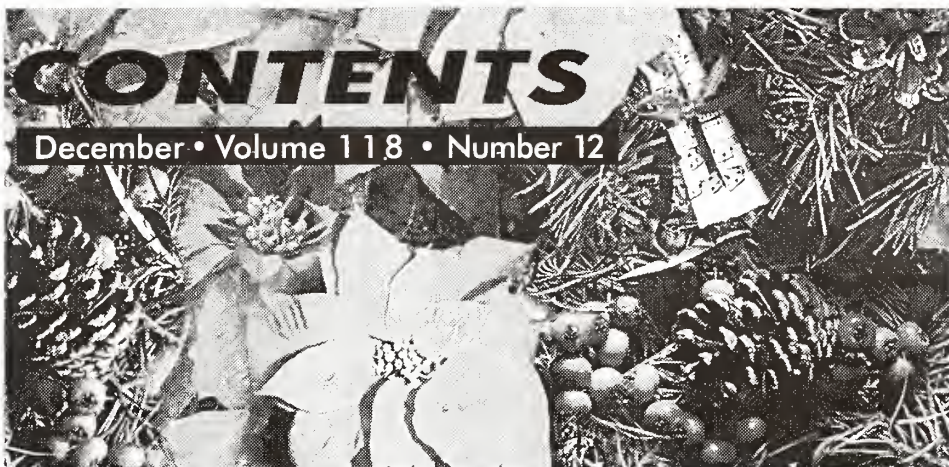
The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*, PO Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

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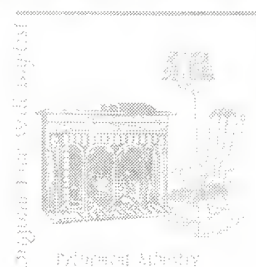
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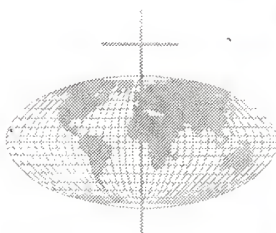
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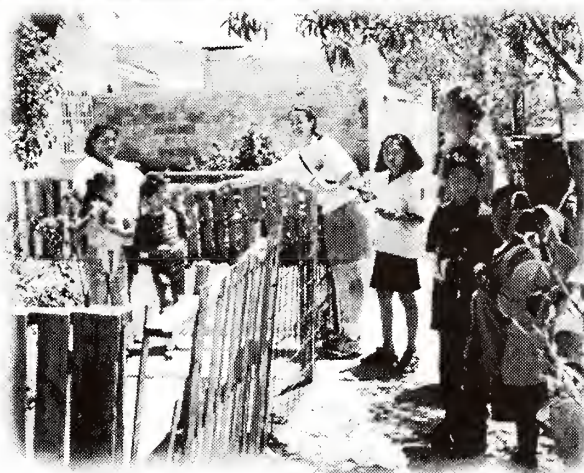
### NEXT MONTH



## Retirement Homes Month



## Foreign Missions Month







# Memories Of Christmas

*W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive, NC*



*A Memorable Christmas—1942 Free Will Baptist Orphanage (now Children's Home). (Front row: far left, Grover T. Lamm; center, Santa Claus, alias, Anderson Daniel; far right, Alsey Page, all from Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, NC).*

*A visit and bag of  
good things from  
Santa Claus.*

**A**mong our most cherished memories are those of Christmas at home. These are memories that cause us to step back in time and reflect on the journey over which life has taken us. As one of the popular songs of the season reminds us, *There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays*.

## **Christmas With My Parents**

The first Christmas I clearly remember was the last Christmas with my parents. I was eight years old; my brother, James Earl, was four; my sister, Mary Lou, was two; and my youngest sister, Catherine, was one.

Living on a farm in Wilson County, near Black Creek, our tree was a holly with red berries cut from the nearby woods. Nailed to a handmade base, it was placed in the family bedroom which served as our living room in the winter, because that's where the wood-burning heater was. It was the only heated room in the house, except the kitchen which had a wood-burning stove.

Since our home did not have electricity, there were no lights on the tree; it was put in a corner, not by a window. In addition to the red berries, the only decorations were strings of popcorn which draped the tree from top to bottom.

On Christmas morning, I remember the row of stuffed stockings—my father's red-toe work socks—hanging from the mantel above the stove. I had recently learned to tell time and had told Santa that I wanted a watch for Christmas. Excitedly, I emptied my stocking—first an apple, an orange, nuts and candy, and then a small square box which contained a Big Ben pocket watch.

It was the last Christmas our entire



family would have together. In February my father was unable to overcome pneumonia, and in July I carried the Big Ben watch with me to the Free Will Baptist Orphanage (now Children's Home) at Middlesex. It would be sixty-four years before I would return to that farmhouse, where our family had been tenants, and through the kindness of the current owners, visit the room where I first remembered Christmas.

### Christmas at the Orphanage

Meaningful memories have remained with me from my eight Christmas seasons at the Orphanage.

In the days we were out of school before Christmas, we children anxiously awaited the arrival of the mailman and watched the packages being carried to the office of the superintendent. On the night before we would leave for Christmas vacations, we waited anxiously for the bell to ring. The boys would line up, according to size, and we would march to the girls' building where there was a large room used for school, religious services, or any other occasion when the children were called together.

After what we felt were endless preliminaries of Scripture reading and comments by the superintendent, we came to what we children considered the pur-

---

*It was the last Christmas our entire family would have together.*

---

pose of the gathering—the distribution of the packages which we had seen the mailman deliver.

Some children received presents from relatives; but thanks to a church—and I have never known which one—every child received at least one gift. A list of all the children and their ages would be sent to the church, which then divided the names among its members for them to purchase appropriate gifts according to age and gender. A hilarious event happened one Christmas when a teenage boy, named Elmer, opened his present to discover an undergarment for a girl!

Another Christmas event of great excitement and joy was the arrival of Santa

Claus, not on a sleigh but on the back of a large truck. I can still see Santa in his red and white toboggan and suit, waving his hands, as the truck came in view. Since his arrival time was announced in advance, no bell was necessary for the children to gather on the steps in front of the old three-storied girls' building. Santa personally presented each child with a large—and I mean large—bag of fruit, nuts, and candy.

It was not until more than forty years after I left the Orphanage that Mrs. Virginia Lamm Hayes of Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson gave me a picture of all the children lined up on the steps, holding their Christmas bags, and told me that it was her father, Grover T. Lamm, who planned and organized Santa's annual visits. In a recent homecoming visit to the church, I related how much those Christmas visits meant to the children, and one of the older members told me that Mr. Lamm and Mr. Alsey Page from the church would visit merchants in Wilson and invite them to make the gifts which filled those bags—bags we children would remember for a lifetime.

Then, there was the Christmas I had a frightening experience. It was the day the children were scheduled to go home for the holidays. As each car approached the campus, each of us hoped it would be the person who had come for us. Throughout the day, cars arrived and children left.

By mid-afternoon, the campus seemed to be getting not only quieter, but also larger. It was now late in the evening and no one had come for me, my brother, and sister. It was a lonely feeling I have never forgotten. Would we be the only children left on campus for Christmas?

Twilight has never seemed—before nor since—so foreboding! Before darkness, however, our ride arrived. The family member, who our mother had arranged to come for us, had been delayed.

Because of this experience, as soon as I began my pastorate of churches and had a car, even while I was still in Divinity School, I had a standing agreement with the Rev. S. A. Smith, then superintendent of the Orphanage, that I

would find a home for any child who did not have a place to go at Christmas. Now, more than a half-century later, members of Oak Grove Church in Sampson County, Howell Swamp Church in Greene County, and Friendship Church in Jones County remember the children to whom they gave a memorable gift at Christmas—a home. Among these homes was the family of Rose Mallard of Trenton.



*W. Burkette Raper, 1942*

### Christmas With My Larger Family

The time came when Rose and I were married, and I had a home of my own. For the next twenty-five years, however, we went every Christmas Day to the home of her parents.

As our children were born, the first two while we were living in the parsonage of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County and the other four after we moved to Mount Olive, we always arranged with Santa to bring their gifts to our home on Christmas Eve.

As the children grew and entered school, they met other children who knew more about Santa than their parents. I remember one year as Christmas approached, one of our children, at breakfast in the hearing of the younger children, advised us that they did not believe there was a real Santa Claus. There was no argument: I simply told the children that those who did not believe in Santa would not need to go to the Christmas tree on Christmas morning, because if there were no Santa there would be no presents. We never discussed the subject again, and there was never a morning that each of the chil-

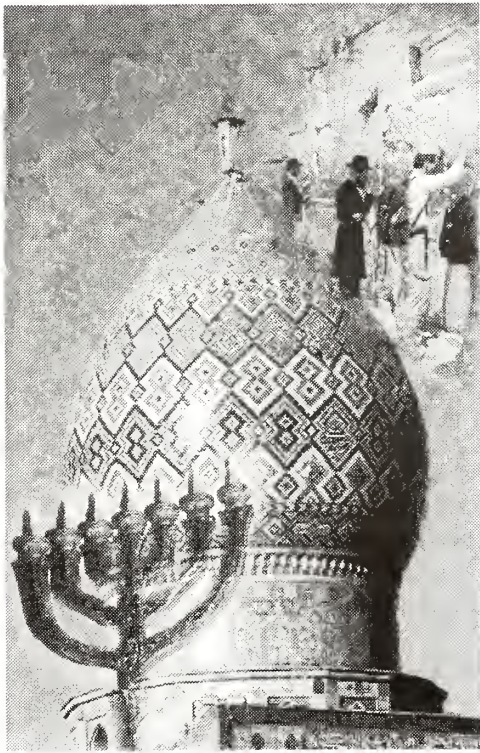
*continued on page 8*



# Why Do So Many Arabs Hate the United States?

by Harry Grubbs

**I**n 1948 the United States and Great Britain helped Jews from around the world reestablish the ancient land of Israel as their homeland. This move displaced Palestinians who had occupied the land that Arabs called Palestine. Both Israelis and Palestinians lay claim to the land by divine right, tracing their right to the land to Abraham. Jews trace their heritage through Isaac, and Muslims trace their heritage through Ishmael.



*"...Holy war is never one group against another. We fight not against flesh and blood, but against the darkness in our own lives."*

God promised the land of Canaan to Abram and his descendants (Genesis 12:1-9). When Abram was 85 years old, he and Sarai began to doubt that he would have any heirs. Sarai gave her maid, Hagar, to Abram as a concubine. She bore Ishmael when Abram was 86 years old (Genesis 16). Isaac was born to Abraham and Sarah when Abraham was 100 years old.

After the birth of Isaac, Ishmael was rejected by Sarah, and Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away. The Bible says that Ishmael would be a "wild man," that he would hate everyone, and that everyone would hate him (Genesis 16:12). However, the Bible also says that God would bless him so that he would be the father of 12 rulers (Genesis 17:20). His sons are named in (Genesis 25: 13-18) where the passage indicates that they lived in hostility toward each other. This hostility toward others was probably a direct result of Ishmael's being rejected by his father upon the birth of Isaac. Neither the Bible nor the Quran trace his descendants after his sons. The Bible says that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice (Genesis 22), but the Quran (S. 37:99-111) says that Ishmael was the one offered. Muslims maintain that since Ishmael was the firstborn, he is the heir to the promised land. Jews, however, consider Ishmael illegitimate since he was born to a concubine; therefore, Isaac is the heir to the promise.

Isaac's firstborn, Esau, traded away his birthright to his brother, Jacob, whose name was later changed to Israel. Jacob's clan, now called Israelites (Hebrews by the Egyptians), moved to Egypt during

the drought and settled in Goshen where they stayed for approximately 400 years. Jacob and all his sons died there. After the death of Joseph and the pharaoh who had befriended the Israelites, the new pharaoh enslaved the Hebrew people. They suffered many years of slavery and persecution.

Finally, Moses led the Israelites from Egypt. In preparation for the task, he spent 40 years in the Sinai Peninsula, the land of the Midianites (Midian was a son of Abraham and Keturah), where he learned that there was only One God.

Although Moses was a Hebrew, he was reared an Egyptian and taught about the "gods" of the Egyptian people. In Midian, under the tutelage of Jethro, Moses came to believe in One God. At the burning bush he met God, and God called him to lead the Hebrew people from bondage to the "promised land." He demanded to know God's name. "I AM" was God's answer. God was telling Moses "I AM, other gods are not; I AM the only God who is; I AM eternal—I AM yesterday, today, tomorrow, and for ever."

After some argument, Moses finally agreed to do God's will. He led the people toward the land promised to Abraham years before. After 40 years in the wilderness they arrived at the land to find many tribes already there. The land was called Canaan for Noah's grandson, who was the father of the Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites, Hivites, and others (Genesis 10: 15-19; I Chronicles 1: 13). Another tribe, located at the southeast end of the Mediterranean Sea, was the Philistines, the ancestral name of the present day Palestinians (the Arabic name for Palestine is



Filistia). We do not know whether they were descendants of Ishmael; we do not know their origin.

The Israelites conquered and settled the land, which they called Israel (being descendants of Jacob/Israel) and where they lived many years as 12 separate tribes. They finally saw the need for a unified government under one king. The first was Saul, then David (approximately 1025–986 BC), then Solomon. After the reign of Solomon, the kingdom was divided into North and South (947 BC). The Northern Kingdom continued to be called Israel and sometimes Samaria (for its capital). The Southern Kingdom was called Judah because Judah was the largest of the southern tribes. The Northern Kingdom was taken captive by the Assyrians in 721/722 BC, and these tribes were never heard from again. The Southern Kingdom was taken captive by Babylon in 585 BC. The captives were called Judeans, or Jews, for short. Some fifty years later, the Jews were allowed to return to Judah, or Judea, as it was called in Jesus' day. Judea was a part of the Persian Empire until 333 BC, when that empire including Judea was taken by Alexander the Great of Greece. Greek became the "classical" culture of Palestine.

In 76 BC, the Roman Empire overwhelmed the Greek Empire, and Israel was taken by Rome which controlled the land during the time of Jesus. Although Israel had a king, a Roman procurator was the real governmental authority.

A Jewish resistance group called Zealots developed whose goal was political independence for Israel. (At least one and possibly two of Jesus' disciples were Zealots. Some historians speculate that Judas Iscariot was a Zealot who followed Jesus, thinking that Jesus was the Messiah to lead the fight against the Romans. Upon realizing that Jesus would not fulfill his desire for Messiah, Judas betrayed him in order to use the money for the Zealot cause.) This group tried desperately to drive the Romans from Israel only to be completely defeated by the Romans in 70 AD. The temple was destroyed, the puppet king was overthrown, and Israel no longer existed. Jews migrated north into eastern Europe and later many came to the "New World"

when the Americas were settled. [Christianity also spread into Europe and later to the Americas. However, the Arab world was neglected.]

The land remained a part of the Roman Empire for over 700 years. In 306 AD, Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity. Four churches of note were built in Palestine on holy sites during his reign: the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Church of the Nativity, the Church of the Ascension, and a church in Mamre. The population became predominantly Christian. In 638 AD Palestine was taken over by the Muslims.

Islam was founded in 610 AD, by Muhammad, an Arab who studied the Bible to learn the history of Judaism to the time of Christ. He developed beliefs similar to Judaism, but with a view of God as loving, "oft-forgiving and most merciful" (a phrase used often in the Quran). However, he distorted the Bible regarding Ishmael and regarding Jesus. He claimed that it was Ishmael, rather than Isaac, who was offered by Abraham as a sacrifice to Allah and that the Muslim people descended from Abraham through Ishmael. However, the Quran says no more about Ishmael's descendants than does the Bible. The Quran makes reference to the same people as the

*"Islam was founded in  
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Christ."*

Bible, i.e., Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, David, Solomon, Job, Zechariah, John the Baptist, and Jesus as being "in the ranks of the righteous" (6:83–85), but it does not actually trace Muslim heritage of Ishmael. The Quran acknowledges the Virgin Birth of Jesus (3:47; 19:20–22), but denies that He was God (5:75) and denies His crucifixion (4:157).

Muhammad taught that Jihad was the way to cleanse oneself of evil so that Muslims (those who submit to Allah) could live a pure life. Jihad literally means struggle, and Muhammad defined it as the human struggle with sin

or Satan. He might very well have read what Paul says about putting on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:10–18). This struggle might include any effort one puts into helping others, such as holding a door for someone or giving a cup of cold water. He never taught Jihad as warfare, even holy war. Therefore, he taught that the spread of Islam should be through peaceful and righteous means.

After his death the religion split into two factions over who should be the spiritual leader. One group came to be called Sunni and the other Shiite (there are many other sects of Islam, but two major groups). The radicals interpreted Jihad as "Holy War," meaning that Muslims should kill the enemies of Allah including Jews, pagans, infidels, and hypocrite Christians.

Using warfare as a method, Muslims spread Islam throughout the Middle East to Palestine where in 691 they built a Mosque on Mount Zion, the site of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem. Because of harsh treatment of Christians, the population became predominantly Muslim. From there Islam moved north through Asia Minor and south across Egypt and Northern Africa. In 711 the Arabs crossed the Strait of Gibraltar into Spain.

From the late 1000s to the late 1200s, the Catholic Church financed a series of Crusades to Palestine to retake the Holy Land for Christianity. They succeeded in 1099, and the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem was established on Christmas Day, 1100. That lasted with great tension only with aid of seven such Crusades until 1291 when the Muslims retook Palestine. It was then controlled by succession of Muslim dynasties until WWI. Most of the time Palestine was a part of Syria.

In the late 1800s, a movement among Jewish people called Zionism arose whose purpose was to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. During WWI, Palestine was taken by the British who controlled the land until 1948.

In 1917, the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs promised support for a national homeland for Jewish people with the provision that the non-Jewish population would maintain all civil and

*continued on page 8*



religious rights. The population of Palestine in 1919 was about 700,000: 568,000 Arab Muslims; 74,000 Arab Christians; and 58,000 Jews. (Anti-Zionist demonstrations in Palestine began in 1920 with riots and killing of Jews. These riots have continued intermittently to this day.)

In 1922, the League of Nations approved a Mandate to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. By 1939, even amid strong anti-Zionist sentiment, the Jewish population of Palestine rose to 445,457 (30% of the total). By 1946, the population was 1,269,000 Arabs and 678,000 Jews.

On May 14, 1948, the British left Palestine and the Zionists proclaimed the state of Israel. The new country was recognized immediately by the U. S. and Great Britain, but is still not recognized by the majority of the Arab world. Certain areas of the country were designated for Palestinian communities, notably the Gaza Strip (the ancient land of the Philistines) and West Bank of the Jordan River, including Bethlehem and the area where ancient Jericho was located.

This has not appeased the Palestinians who feel as if their land, the land promised to them by Abraham, has been stolen by the Jews with the help of Great Britain and the United States. For this reason, much of the Arab world hates these groups of people. There has been intermittent fighting and a few severe wars between Palestinians and Israelis since that time.

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*Christmas Memories, continued from page 5*

dren was not at the tree, bright and early, and by some strange insight each one knew exactly what presents were for whom.

Surely, our children need to grow and learn the larger meaning of Christmas, just as I did one year as the children's eyes glowed and their hearts beat fast with the excitement of the gifts they found under and around the tree. Witnessing their happiness, I vividly remember my feeling that nothing I could have received at Christmas would have made me happy if there had been no gifts for the children. I think for the first time I understood the true meaning of what Jesus meant when he told his disciples: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Militant Muslims, Shiites and radical Sunnis, have declared holy war against Israel and all her supporters, including the United States. The moderate Muslims, on the other hand, support peace in the Middle East and would like for the Jews and Muslims to coexist in Palestine/Israel. There are also radical Jews who would like to eliminate all Palestinians and moderate Jews who want peace.

Therefore, we must not hate all Muslims. Islam means "submission to Allah," and a real Muslim is "one who submits to the will of Allah." Real Muslims, therefore, respect Christians, Jews, and all people because all people are created by God. Real Muslims are courteous, kind, gentle people who deserve the respect of Christians. Real Christians are loving, kind, gentle, respectful people who deserve the respect of others, as well.

There are radical Arabs who call themselves Muslims who are far removed from the will of God, and there are radical Americans who call themselves Christians who are far removed from the will of God. Osama bin Laden and the leaders of the Taliban claim to be Muslims, but their religion is hateful, mean-spirited, and despicable.

Their view of women is most degrading. Women are viewed as property—first of their father, then of their husband. Men are allowed to have several wives, but women can have only one husband. A wife must be completely submissive to

Presents have become an integral part of how we celebrate Christmas, and we all like to receive them. With the maturity of the years, however, we come to understand that what brings us most joy at Christmas is not what we receive but what we give and the peaceful relationship we enjoy with those we love. Our greatest joy is in the joy we give to others, and our deepest pain comes from broken relationships, especially at Christmas.

It was to heal broken relationships—broken relationships with one another and broken relationships with God—that Jesus came into our world. And because of His coming, at Christmas we can sing, *Joy to the World! The Lord is Come.* ❖

her husband; she must always obey his every command and always walk behind her husband in public. A woman must never speak to any man in public, including her husband, unless the man speaks to her first. Women have to be completely covered in public (female skin can cause men to have impure thoughts), and if a woman is raped, she is blamed and can be executed for bringing disgrace upon her family. There are radical American men who call themselves Christians who also treat women in a very degrading way.

What should be the Christian response to Islam? It is the duty of every Christian to tell others about our faith. Our faith is in God as revealed in Jesus Christ. If the Muslim does not accept Christ as the Son of God, we cannot convince him of anything about Christ. If the Muslim does not accept our Bible as the Word of God, we cannot convince him of its truth. Therefore, we must respect the Muslim's right to disagree with us and let God be our Judge.

Holy war is never one group against another. We fight not against flesh and blood, but against the darkness in our own lives. All Americans and the whole world are currently concerned about living in peace with the Middle East (and we should be concerned), but the most critical war is the war within ourselves when we constantly struggle with good and evil, right and wrong (Romans 7:7–25).

All human beings are created in the Image of God, but we all have a selfish nature which leads to sin when we give in to it. We must overcome the selfish nature by replacing it with the nature of God. We then receive the fruits of the Spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, and self-control. Let us pray for peace in the Middle East and in the rest of the world. Let us put on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6: 10–18) to fight against the evil in our own lives so we can live in peace with ourselves, with God, and with all humanity. ❖

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**Resolutions Presented at the Eight-ninth Session  
of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptist  
September 11–13, 2001**

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**Resolution # 1**

**Whereas** David Wells Hansley was born December 21, 1909, at Folkstone, in Onslow County, North Carolina, to David Cicero and Sunie Avie Heath Hansley, the grandson of Jesse Heath, a Free Will Baptist minister, and of John Hansley, Jr., a Primitive Baptist minister; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley attended the Turkey Creek School and Dixon High School in Onslow County, and later sought higher education as he became a licensed minister in the Free Will Baptist Denomination on August 3, 1930, at the age of 21; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley was ordained in 1932 and was married in 1933 in the Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church parsonage to Mary Elizabeth Clements of Durham, who would spend many years teaching in North Carolina's public schools and providing for the education of youth in her church; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley dedicated himself to the work of his church, ultimately serving 37 Free Will Baptist churches in 15 North Carolina counties from 1931 to 1988, including Wake, Durham, Franklin, Orange, Johnston, Sampson, Pitt, Wilson, Greene, Wayne, Lenoir, Onslow, Craven, Carteret, and Tyrrell counties; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley was elected in September, 1949, to serve as chairman and treasurer of the Board of Christian Education of the North Carolina Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the third-oldest religious body in the state; and,

**Whereas** on September 12, 1951, David W. Hansley presented on behalf of the Board of Christian Education (including the Reverend S.A. Smith of Beulaville, the Reverend R.H. Jackson of Carteret County, and D.B. Sasser of Wilson) to that convention, meeting at White Oak Church in Bladenboro, a resolution to establish and sponsor an institution of Christian higher education in North Carolina, and did win the adoption of the resolution; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley provided leadership in securing a charter on behalf of the convention and its Board of Christian Education from Secretary of State Thad Eure on November 27, 1951, and the institution originally known as Mount Allen Junior College was opened in 1952 and did operate for its first year at Cragmont Assembly, near Black Mountain, under the direction of President Lloyd Vernon; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley was elected the chairman of the college's first Board of Directors in September, 1953, when the

college was relocated to the town of Mount Olive, in Wayne County, nearer to the center of Free Will Baptist Church constituency, the board having arranged to purchase, and begun renovation of, the former Mount Olive Grammar School for use as its campus; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley, representing that board, chose the Reverend W. Burkette Raper to serve as president in August 1954, and in September opened the college with its first convocation before an enrollment of twenty-two students in programs of arts, sciences, and business; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley served as chairman of the Mount Olive Junior College Board of Trustees from 1953 to 1963, during which time the college earned accreditation from the North Carolina College Conference in 1958 and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1960; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley continued to serve on the Board of Trustees until 1970, during which time the college expanded, with the support of the Free Will Baptist Church, Dr. C.C. Henderson and other Mount Olive civic leaders and citizens, from the original Grammar School building to a core of buildings on a 100-acre campus along what is now Highway U.S. 117 bypass; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley remained an ardent supporter of Mount Olive College, and did see the fruition of his vision, when Mount Olive College accomplished the transition from a junior to a senior college, and when Hansley personally awarded the first baccalaureate degree to Calvin Heath, a graduate of the college's ministerial program, in May, 1986; and,

**Whereas** David W. Hansley died on April 24, 1989, at the age of 79, and was honored in a memorial service held on the campus of Mount Olive College, and continues to be remembered for his leadership in helping to found the college and through the David W. and Elizabeth C. Hansley Endowed Fund on that campus; and,

**Whereas** Mount Olive College is recognized and accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and offers opportunities for higher education at its 138-acre main campus in Mount Olive, and at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, and through distance-learning centers in New Bern, Wilmington, and Research Triangle Park; and,

*Continued on page 15*



## Summer In Sabinas ...continued Team #3

*"...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40).*

The third team to Mexico followed the same pattern as the others in travel and entry into Mexico. We worshipped at the Aposento Alto Free Will Baptist Church in Monclova on Sunday morning, July 15, and returned to Sabinas Sunday afternoon. That evening we attended the Dedication Service at the Bien Pastor Free Will Baptist Church (Good Shepherd), which had been constructed by the first two teams. This was a service filled with joy and thanksgiving. This building will stand for many years as a place of worship, prayer, and Bible study. We are thankful to everyone who worked on the building and for all who gave to make it possible.

This team concentrated its major efforts into converting the old church building into a parsonage. This meant walls had to be knocked out for windows and doors, while others had to be closed. The demolition was a dirty, hard and hot job, but the team members worked at a steady pace, and in one day this phase of the work was completed.

The following days, walls were constructed, sheetrock installed, windows were put in place, the trimming was completed, inside painted, and the outside was plastered. Some of the team members installed the plumbing in the bathroom and kitchen, while others completed the wiring. When we departed Sabinas on Friday afternoon, both buildings were almost complete. The Mexican brothers put the finishing touches on these buildings.

It was a real joy to work on these buildings and see what God can do with a few dedicated, hardworking people.

The women and teenage girls conducted Vacation Bible School in the new church building. The number of children increased from 50 on Monday to 150 by Friday.

Each day they had to make room for the children by bringing in blocks and planks to make benches. They came from every direction, eager and excited to sing the choruses, listen to the lessons and make the take-home crafts. The afternoons were busy too. There was a

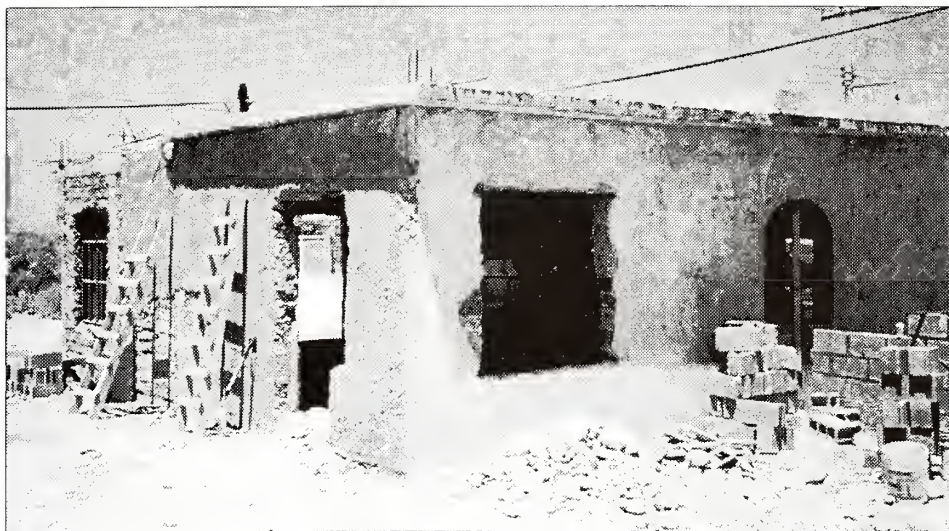


Bible study and craft time for the women and also fun time for the children who didn't want to miss a thing.

Many seeds were planted and God will give the increase. *"...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40).* ♦







## December Is Foreign Missions Month

**T**he month of December has been designated by the Convention as Foreign Missions Month. During this month, as every month, we encourage churches and individuals to remember this ministry in prayer and to emphasize missions during your Worship Services. We also ask you to remember Foreign Missions with a special gift this month. These special gifts enable the Board to continue its ministry on behalf of all Free Will Baptist Churches to take the Gospel Message to the ends of the earth. ❖





## Join Our Family Christmas

**H**ave you ever wondered how it would feel to be unloved during Christmas? To feel alone? To be a child and spend Christmas afraid and sad? When you have been abused or neglected, the world can feel like a cruel place.

Many of our children feel unloved and alone; they are afraid and sad. Many of our children have questions and doubts that, in ways, a lot of them may never fully understand. Many of them have been born into a cold, cruel world, and with a lot of people who aren't ready to accept them, aren't willing to support them, aren't willing to give them the love and the help they need.

This holiday season will be different and difficult for many of our children, who are not able to be with family now. Many are hurting and facing serious problems. At this festive time of year, we will make each and every child feel special and loved.

As we approach this season of giving,

we simply ask for your support in our ministry by bringing happiness and hope into the lives of the children who most need our help. We invite you to be a part of sharing in our sponsorship program again this year. You can help by contributing \$100 for each child you

would like to sponsor. This is a great project for youth groups, Ladies Auxiliaries, Layman Leagues, Sunday School classes, or other church groups. Simply complete the enclosed Sponsorship Reservation form and return it to us by December 7, 2001. ❖



### Joint Effort

**T**hrough the determination of the students of Clayton High School, Clayton, NC, funds of \$500.00 were presented to Wal-Mart of Knightdale to purchase clothing, at a discounted rate, for the residents of our Home.

On September 20, Wal-Mart employees, (L to R) Kerlinda Mayfield, Barbara Prince, and Gertrude Harris, delivered

new clothing to our residents. It goes without saying that our residents were overwhelmed by their generosity.

We want to publicly acknowledge and wholeheartedly express our appreciation to the caring students of Clayton High School for their contributions toward meeting the "personal" needs of our children. ❖

## Free Will Baptist Children's Home Sponsorship Reservation Form



Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children We Would Like To Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

*Cut Out and Mail Form To:*

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.  
P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557-0249

### CAMPUS ITEMS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper Products
- ☐ Personal Care Items
- ☐ Carpet Cleaning Machine
- ☐ Appliances
- ☐ Upright Vacuum Cleaners
- ☐ Dishwasher Detergent
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Electric Pencil Sharpeners
- ☐ Tall Table Lamps
- ☐ Washers
- ☐ 20 Wooden Porch Rocking Chairs
- ☐ Playstation Games
- ☐ 8 oz. Plastic Glasses
- ☐ TVs
- ☐ Laundry Supplies
- ☐ Various Types Cleaning Brushes
- ☐ Encarta 2001 CD ROM Encyclopedias
- ☐ Cordless Telephones
- ☐ VCRs
- ☐ Dryers
- ☐ Adult size Bike Helmets





**T**he Annual Mount Olive College Dinner for Nash County was held in the Whitley Center on October 16, 2001.

After an enjoyable meal, acknowledgments, and thanks were given to each Free Will Baptist church that participated. The Mount Olive College Sing-

ers, under the direction of Mrs. Irene Patton, performed for our guests and residents.

As always, these talented young singers were remarkable. It is an honor to yearly host the Nash County dinner and to welcome all participants to join us again next year. ❖



**M**embers of Verona Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary, Jacksonville, NC, delivered much needed items to our campus on September 8. They were treated to a tour of our

campus and time with our residents of Smith Cottage. Thank you ladies for your caring smiles and warm hearts. ❖



**O**n October 28, the Powhatan Woman's Auxiliary and the Youth Group of Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church of Clayton, NC, presented our Director of Children's Services, Ms. Ellen Bayne (center), a Stereo/CD entertainment system to be used in

our Recreation Center on our campus.

Residents and staff were also treated to a pizza lunch with desserts. The concern and love each member expressed is one of the reasons we are so proud to be a ministry of the Free Will Baptists. Thank you again! ❖

## Listen to the Words of a Child

Teddy, I've been bad again,  
My Mommy told me so;  
I'm not quite sure what I did  
wrong,  
But I thought that you  
might know.



When I woke up this morning,  
I knew that she was mad;  
Cause she was crying awful hard,  
And yelling at my Dad.

I tried my best to be real good,  
And do just what she said;  
I cleaned my room all by myself,  
I even made my bed.

But I spilled milk on my good shirt,  
When she yelled at me to hurry;  
And I guess she didn't hear me,  
When I told her I was sorry.

'Cause she hit me awful hard, you see,  
And called me funny names;  
And told me I was really bad,  
And I should be ashamed.

When I said, "I love you, Mommy,"  
I guess she didn't understand;  
'Cause she yelled at me to shut my mouth,  
Or I'd get smacked again.

So I came up here to talk to you,  
Please tell me what to do;  
'Cause I really love my Mommy,  
And I know she loves me, too.

And I don't think my Mommy means,  
To hit me quite so hard;  
I guess sometimes, grown-ups forget,  
How really big they are.

So Teddy, I wish you were real,  
And you weren't just a bear;  
Then you could help me find a way,  
To tell Mommies everywhere.

To please try hard to understand,  
How sad it makes us feel;  
'Cause the outside pain soon goes away,  
But the inside never heals.

And if we could make them listen,  
Maybe then they'd understand;  
So other children just like me,  
Wouldn't have to hurt again.

But for now, I guess I'll hold you tight,  
And pretend the pain's not there;  
I know you'd never hurt me,  
So Goodnight, Teddy Bear...

*Cindy Pike Dunning*





*Above: Fall Gospel Retreat, October 21—24, 2001*

## Special Thanks

**A** big "Thank You" to all the churches and organizations that have been calling on the services of Bryant Hines, our new Planning and Marketing Director. Since beginning his work with Cragmont in mid-June, he has been privileged to share the mission, the ministry, and the vision of our "New Heights" campaign in sixteen of our churches.

Bryant would love to come to your church and share firsthand the excitement of our expanding ministry at Cragmont. He is available for Sunday worship, Wednesday services, auxiliary and men's fellowship, and youth meetings.

Our "down east" office number is 252-637-7171. Call to get The View—Catch the Vision—New Heights Await! ❖

## Fall Gospel Festival a Success

**O**ur first annual Fall Gospel Festival was a tremendous success. Over eighty-five people enjoyed the beauty of the fall colors and great Gospel music at Dollywood. The weather was absolutely gorgeous. The music by the Kingdom Heirs, The Greenes, The Dove Brothers, The Perrys, and Dr. Jerry Goff was enjoyed by all.

There was even ample time to stroll the shops of Dollywood and consume entirely too much food! Why, some of our senior citizens were even seen boarding a roller coaster! What a great time of fellowship and fun.

Don't worry—Fall Festival 2002 is already being planned. ❖

## New for 2002

**L**ook for new opportunities on the mountain as the new year arrives. Cragmont will be offering Weekday Senior Specials for our "retired who are not tired."

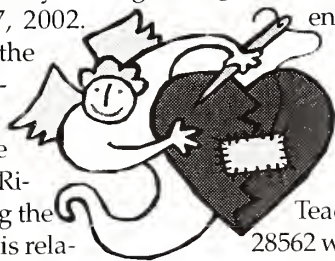
Enjoyment packages are being planned that will have buses departing from the east on Monday, enjoying shows and shopping in Tennessee on Tuesday, local shops and Farmers Market on Wednesday, and heading home on Thursday. Exact dates for our Weekday Senior Specials will be available in January. Trips are being planned for March and April 2002. Plan to join us for a great time of fellowship. ❖



## Something New For 2002—Cragmont's Valentine Weekend

**S**pecial for couples only. Our first Marriage Enrichment Seminar will be offered Friday through Sunday, February 15-17, 2002. Space will be limited to the first 30 couples that register.

Seminar leaders Dr. De Wayne Eakes and the Rev. Richard Holmes will be using the John Maxwell series for this relationship building experience on the mountain.



The cost for this seminar will be \$150.00 per couple which includes lodging and meals at Cragmont for the weekend and all seminar materials.

Contact Bryant Hines at 252-637-7171 for further information or complete the registration form and mail to Bryant Hines, 203 Teachey Court, New Bern, NC 28562 with your \$50.00 non-refundable deposit due by January 15. Balance due upon arrival at Cragmont. ❖

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_  
 Do you need a first floor room? ☐ Yes ☐ No

*Continued from page 9.*

**Whereas** on September 12, 2001, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, meeting at College Hall on the campus of Mount Olive College, will celebrate the founding of the only college chartered and accredited in North Carolina which is sponsored by that body, on its fiftieth anniversary;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists concurring:

**SECTION 1.** The Convention honors the Reverend David W. Hansley as a founder and trustee of Mount Olive College.

**SECTION 2.** The Secretary of the Convention shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the chairman of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, and to the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College.

**SECTION 3.** That a copy of this resolution be made a part of the permanent minutes of this Convention.

### Resolution #2

**Whereas**, Mount Olive College has been a gracious host to the Eighty-ninth Ses-

sion of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; and,

**Whereas**, Cecil Cahoon so graciously compiled the historic readings for the Wednesday Morning Service;

**Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Convention give rising vote of thanks to both Mount Olive College and Cecil Cahoon for their gracious services in celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of Mount Olive College, and hosting this Eighty-ninth Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

### Resolution #3

**Whereas**, the officers of the Convention have done such a great job in planning and conducting this Eighty-ninth Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists;

**Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Convention give a rising vote of thanks to the officers of the Convention.

### Resolution #4

**Whereas**, our nation has suffered a hostile, tragic, and devastating attack that has



## Winter Retreat Weekends

**T**here are still limited openings for winter retreat weekends, January through March, 2002. Snow skiing is only a short distance away at Wolf Laurel.

Call us at 252-637-7171 and let Bryant help your class or youth group enjoy some winter fun at an affordable price. ❖

shaken the God-ordained foundations of freedom and democracy and affected the lives, families, and nations throughout the free world, let it be resolved that we, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists pray for and support:

1. All victims and families affected by this tragedy;
2. All people, organizations, and churches involved in the rescue, treatment, and ministry to all affected;
3. All leaders of our nation, as well as leaders of the world to do what is right and just to defend and protect the God-given right of freedom that we can triumph over this evil that threatens all people of the world;

That we end this Session of this Convention in a united prayer of petition and that all Original Free Will Baptist Churches set aside Sunday, September 16, 2001, as a day in which we unite as a denomination to call out to God for His help, healing, hope, and protection in the midst of this evil tragedy that affects all God's people in the world. ❖



## Christmas Cheer

**T**he Christmas season will soon be upon us and all over the world people will be celebrating the Birth of the Christ Child. This is a special time of year, and we all look forward to sharing time with family and friends. Part of our joy comes from giving and remembering others with gifts, cards, and the greetings of the season.

It always warms your heart to receive a card or greeting from friends that you have known through the years, but no longer see on a regular basis. As time passes, our lives change and we move from one place to another, but it is always good to keep in touch with people we have known through the years to let them know that we have not forgotten them or the memories we share.

### Remember Them!

Over time, some of the ministers who have faithfully served your church have changed pastorates and are no longer an active part of our church family. Many of these men are still working hard in their capacities as pastors, while others who, because of advancing years or disability, have retired from the pastoral ministry.

These are the men who preached the

revivals, baptized our children, and performed the marriage ceremonies of our parents. Now many of them are unable to attend the conference meetings or the Convention, and we have lost touch with them. There is a real danger that we may forget them and the important work they have done.

Each year the Minister's Program, during Operation Christmas Cheer, acknowledges these men who have given so much to our people and churches. During this season, the Minister's Program sends Christmas greetings to all ministers age 65 and over, along with a gift in the amount of \$100. While the Minister's Program sends the greeting, it is done on behalf of the churches and congregations of the Convention. This program reaches over 100 ministers at a cost of over \$10,000 to the Minister's Program.

### What Makes this Possible?

You do! It is our churches and other organizations within the church that make this program a reality. However, last year approximately 40% of our churches provided no gift support to the Minister's Program. Your support through the year makes programs like

this possible. Help us remember them! Those who receive these greetings write back to thank the churches for making this program possible. One minister writes to say "It means so much to be remembered by my denomination," and another says, "This gift will really come in handy, and I sure can use it. Thank you."

### What Can You Do?

Each church, Sunday school class, Auxiliary, Layman's League, and youth group, can contribute \$100 to help sponsor this program. In addition, we hope that you will include the Minister's Program in your budget. Some churches are able to do more and we would like to encourage them to do this during this special time of year. Each year, the Minister's Program steps out in faith to make Christmas Cheer a reality because without your support we could not afford the cost. Thank you in advance for all that you do and may all the blessings of the season be yours.

To participate please send your gift to:

The Minister's Program  
PO Box 39  
Ayden, NC 2851



### Take Part In Operation Christmas Cheer

Help us make sure that every Free Will Baptist Minister age 65 and over receives a gift of \$100 this Christmas

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# To Help America Speak To God With One Voice

# A Prayer By The Nation

# For the Nation

In an Hour of Unprecedented Sorrow

**Sovereign of the Ages**

**Lord of the Nations**

**God of our Fathers**

**Source of all Comfort and All Hope:**

**YOU HAVE SPOKEN TO US IN PRECIOUS PROMISES:**

that Your plans stand firm forever, so that any nation is blessed whose God is the Lord—Psalm 33

that You are our Shepherd, delivering us from all evil even in the valley of the shadow of death—

Psalm 23

that through the Resurrection of Your Son, death itself is swallowed up in victory.—1 Corinthians 15

**YOU HAVE ALSO SHOWN US THROUGHOUT THE PAST:**

that Your mighty arm can bring justice to nations who put their hope in You—Isaiah 51

that You know how to comfort those who mourn, bestow beauty for ashes, and provide garments of praise for a spirit of despair—Isaiah 61

that You will not disregard our cause, but give strength to the weary until we soar again on wings like eagles.—Isaiah 40

**YOU COMFORT US EVEN NOW BY THE ONE WHO SAID:**

"I am the Resurrection and the Life so that whoever believes in Me will never die"—John 11

"Others come to steal, kill and destroy; but I have come to give you the fullness of life"—John 10

"Though in the world you will have trouble, in me you can have peace for I have overcome the world."—John 16

**THEREFORE, TOGETHER AS "ONE NATION UNDER GOD," the God in Whom we trust, we lift up one voice to You across our land, asking in an hour of unprecedented sorrow:**

Receive us in our humility and brokenness before You

Strengthen those whose grieving hearts cry out to You

Shepherd us in mercy through this valley of tears

Give fresh strength to Your people who worship You

Unveil before all that the Lamb reigns supreme

In the place of destruction, pour out the full extent of Jesus' life

In the place of confusion and fear, be to us a wonderful, mighty Prince of Peace

In the place of mourning and despair, cover us with comfort and reassurance

In the midst of our great troubles, give us Christ's victory over all the terrors of Hell

As never before, awaken and sustain us as a nation with the triumphant hope we have in You and in You alone.

Across America, with a spirit of urgency, we pray in confidence that "You who spared not Your own Son but gave Him up freely for us all" will not fail to hear and answer us.

In the Name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. AMEN

**CALL TO ACTION:** Pray this prayer daily this week. Share it with your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers. Pray it in unison in your house of worship on Sunday. Text can be downloaded at [www.nationalprayer.org](http://www.nationalprayer.org).

(The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is an official part of Mission America.) Issued on September 14, 2001 By the hundreds of Christian leaders and denominations that comprise THE MISSION AMERICA COALITION, AMERICA'S NATIONAL PRAYER COMMITTEE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS, AND THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER TASK FORCE.



## Upholding the Family Tradition

Nathaniel Grubbs' earliest recollection of Mount Olive College is visiting his grandmother's office. Nathaniel's grandmother, Lillian Grubbs has been employed by the College for 23 years. At the time of Nathaniel's visit, some 10 years ago, Mrs. Grubbs was working as faculty secretary in the Henderson Building. Little did Nathaniel know as he climbed the steps of the window-filled building, that one day he would attend classes in that same facility.

Nathaniel, now a freshman, comes from a family with deep ties to the College. Both of his parents, Paul and Teresa Grubbs, attended the College, along with all of his father's brothers and sisters, his paternal grandparents, and several cousins and in-laws.

With his family connections to the College, Nathaniel knew he would be welcome at the four-year institution. He also knew he would receive a quality education. However, it was neither his family ties nor any specific program that drew Nathaniel to the halls of Mount Olive College. It was the size of the private Christian institution and the scholarship opportunities that helped Nathaniel make his final decision.

"I applied to a larger college and was accepted, but was not able to receive the



*Above: Teresa Grubbs, mother; the Rev. Paul Grubbs, father; Andrew Grubbs, brother; Lillian Grubbs, grandmother; Nathaniel; and Matthew Grubbs, brother.*

scholarships that I did at Mount Olive," Nathaniel said. "The small student-faculty ratio was also a comforting aspect of Mount Olive College."

Although the classes are small, Nathaniel has been surprised at the College's diverse student body. He discovered that the College not only has many Free Will Baptist students and students of alumni, but also students from 19 states other than North Carolina and 9 countries.

"I can't comprehend how students from so many places heard about Mount Olive because I've always grown up knowing about the College," Nathaniel said.

"It has made me realize that Mount Olive is more widely known than I had previously suspected. I lived in the Philippines and Bulgaria for most of my childhood and I am more culturally aware than the average American college student. When I meet someone from a different country, I don't have that sense of awe or surprise that I see other students have. Instead, I recognize

their differences and know what they feel like to be different. My high school was also pretty diverse, so I was glad to see such a diverse student body at Mount Olive College."

Nathaniel, a biology major, became interested in plant studies and landscaping while in high school. He plans to attend graduate school and enter the research or teaching fields.

"I plan to do whatever I feel God leads me to do one step at a time. I'm kind of like Abram in that I don't have a map as to where I am going, but I know God will lead me there just the same," Nathaniel said.

Nathaniel graduated third in a class of 294 from Northeastern High School in Pasquotank County. He is a member of St. Paul Original Free Will Baptist Church in Pasquotank County. ❖

## Coming Events

**Fall 2001 Commencement Ceremonies**—will be held on Saturday, December 15, 2001. The Worship Service begins at 10:30 AM in Rodgers Chapel followed by a luncheon in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. The Commencement Service is scheduled for 2:00 PM in College

Hall. Tickets are required for admission.

**Spring Semester Classes**—will begin on Tuesday, January 8. For more information about schedules or how you can register for classes, contact the Office of Admissions at (919) 658-2502. ❖

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## 2001-2002 Student Council

**T**wenty-five students have been elected to the SGA student council for the 2001-2002 academic year. Student council members hold considerable responsibility for quality and content of student life at Mount Olive College and serve as an advisory group to the College's administration and faculty.

Pictured are members of the 2001-2002 student council. (Front row, left to right): Shakeena Green, Duplin County, executive cabinet treasurer; JaNae Joyner, Wayne County, executive cabinet president; Robin Kornegay, Wayne County, commuter representative; Beth Schultz, Buffalo, New York, residence life representative; Amanda Mills, Johnston County, campus activity board chair; and Jenn Barthelemy, Clearwater, Florida, campus activity board assistant. (Second row): Brianna Williams, Hyde County, senior class president; Bryan Williamson, Saint Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County, executive cabinet vice president; Shenetta Moye, Greene County, freshman class president; Amber Hill, Guilford County, freshman



class treasurer; Erin Pritchard, Pitt County, sophomore class vice president; and Jenny Jones, Wayne County, sophomore class treasurer. (Back row): Bear Waters, New Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County, resident life representative; Steven Hill, Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County, freshman class vice president; Jonathan Higgins, Wayne County, commuter representative; Terrence Eure, Duplin County, senior class vice president; Joey Howard, Lenoir County, resi-

dent life representative; Melissa Wright, Wayne County, junior class president; Lesli Smith, St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in Craven County, senior class treasurer; and Marci Rollins, First Free Will Baptist Church of Wayne County, executive cabinet secretary. Not pictured are Joy Daughtry, Westside Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County, sophomore class secretary; and Nikki McLawhon, Wayne County, senior class secretary. ❖

## New Religion Cohort Begins

**P**ictured are students in the second largest Modular Religion Major (MRM, formerly Church Ministries). The two-semester program, which started on October 8, prepares men and women for service and leadership roles in local churches, denominational work, and nonprofit ministries.

Courses are designed to help students gain an understanding of Christian theology and Biblical concepts and how these principles are applied to activity ministry in the world. (Seated, L to R): Jenny Morgan of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County; Victor Castro of Wayne County; and Ron Whitaker of



Wayne County. (Standing, L to R): Dr. Tyanna Day, associate professor of religion; Eric Moore of Wake County; Nellise Harper of Wayne County; Stacey Evans of Wilson County; Scott Kennedy of Duplin County; Laura Witter of Duplin County; Art Taylor of Sampson County; Carla Williamson of St. Mary's

Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County; the Rev. Aubrey Williamson of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County; Sheryl Bradford of New Hanover County; Willie Lewis of Wayne County; and Dr. David Hines, chair of the department of religion. ❖



## Scholarship Established in Memory of the Rev. David T. Ricks

**T**homas W. and Joseph Ricks have established a \$10,000 endowed memorial scholarship fund at Mount Olive College in memory of their father, the Rev. David T. Ricks. The purpose of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attain an education.

The Rev. David T. Ricks (September 27, 1947 - October 22, 1999) strongly believed in higher education. Born and raised in the area around Wilson, NC, Mr. Ricks' childhood was difficult and poor, thus affording him little in the way of educational opportunities or other advantages.

While in his teens, he dropped out of high school to work full-time. After getting married and starting a family, he went to night school to earn his GED and eventually did coursework at both Mount Olive College and Carolina Bible Institute.

According to his son, Thomas, it was Mr. Ricks' own lack of educational opportunity that caused him to be such a zealous advocate of education for others. "Second only to his faith in Christ, my father's most deeply held belief was the infinite worth of each person. He firmly believed that God created every individual for a special and unique purpose. He saw obtaining the highest education possible in one's particular circumstances as being an important component of finding and fulfilling that special purpose," Thomas stated.

This link between education and the worth of the individual was why Mr. Ricks believed education to be an important aspect of Christian ministry. In his view, helping a person to achieve the end for which God created him meant not only leading that person to faith in Christ, but also helping him to obtain the tools needed to accomplish the work for which God made him.

"We decided to endow a memorial scholarship at Mount Olive for two reasons. First, it is the school affiliated with the denomination in which my father spent his ministry and thus was near and dear to him. Second, the school's



demographics are such that we will be able to help exactly the type of person my father was always encouraging to get an education—a working-class North Carolinian who is frequently the first in his or her family to seek a college education," Thomas said. "My brother and I feel strongly that an endowed scholarship at Mount Olive College is the ideal way to honor my father's memory and to encourage the ideals of which he was such a zealous promoter," he continued.

An Original Free Will Baptist minister for 19 years, Mr. Ricks pastored at Mt. Tabor in Washington County from 1980 to 1981; at Ayden Church in Pitt County from 1981 to 1983; at Peace Church in Edgecombe County from 1983 to 1988; at Sandy Plain Church near Pink Hill from 1988 to 1995; and from 1995, until his death in 1999 at Grace Church in Edgecombe County.

In addition to his sons, Mr. Ricks is survived by his wife, Shirley, who resides in Elm City. Thomas Ricks lives in Front Royal, Virginia with his wife and 5 children. He is an alumnus of Duke University and a veteran of the U. S. Army. He works in the software industry and is pursuing a graduate degree in theology from Christendom College.

Joseph Ricks is an alumnus of Barton College and works in the manufactured housing industry. He and his wife live in Elm City, NC.

Recipients of the Rev. David T. Ricks Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund must demonstrate financial need, strong evidence of personal integrity, moral character, good citizenship, academic promise, and a sincere commitment to furthering their education. Recipients must enter into a written agreement to participate in both prescribed academic studies and in a defined extra-curricula program, including internships and service projects, as may be determined by the College.

Endowed scholarships are permanent funds that provide annual scholarships. If you are interested in establishing a fund in your family's name contact Dr. W. Burkette Raper or Jeff Daughtry at Mount Olive College. ♦

### Churches & Ministers Available

*NOTE: This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." (Each notice will run for two issues only.)*

**Spring Hope Original Free Will Baptist Church**—located near Bridgeton, Craven County, is seeking a full-time pastor. Only ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers need apply. Anyone interested in this position may submit a resume to: Sam Tyson, 375 Truitt Rd., New Bern, NC, 28560 or call Mr. Tyson at 252-636-5740.

**Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church**—Pitt County, 553 Sweet Gum Grove Road, Stokes, NC 27884, is seeking a full-time pastor. This church has three services per week, a youth group, young couples, mixed with faithful senior citizens. Interested applicants please contact Esper Futrell at 2034 Futrell-Robson Road, Bethel, NC 27812, (252) 758-2619, or Corrine Tetterton at 535 Tetterton Road, Bethel, NC 27812, (252) 758-2772.

**Change of Address**—the Rev. Calvin A. Heath, Pastor, Mt. Zion Original Free Will Baptist Church, 1754 Mt. Zion Church Road, Nashville, NC 27856, (252) 459-3818. ♦



## College Announces Pledges Totaling \$1.4 Million

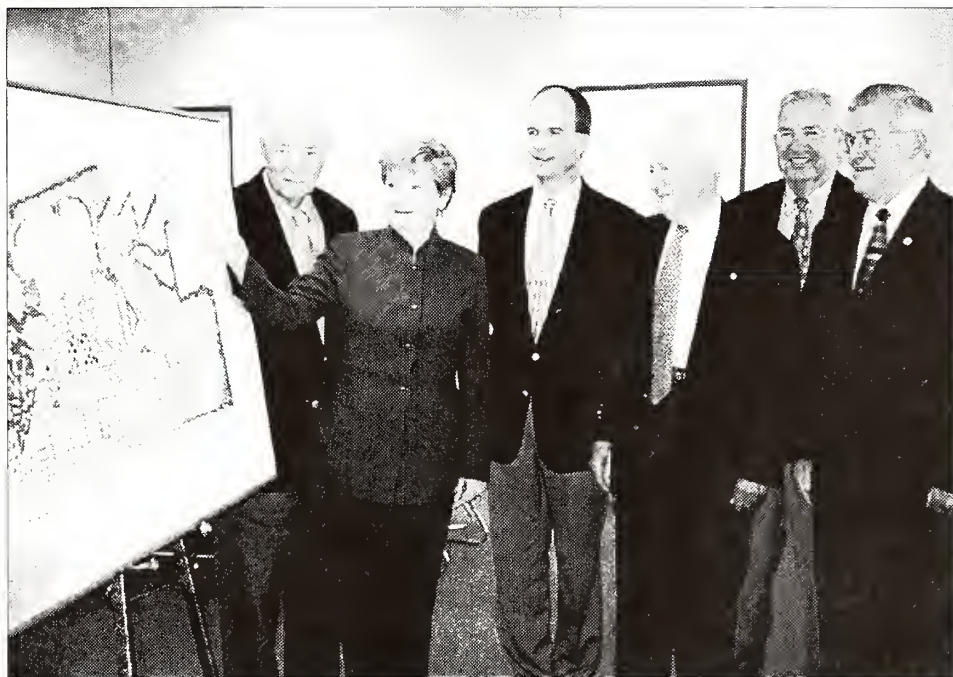
**M**ount Olive College recently announced three gifts to the College totaling \$1.4 million. Mt. Olive Pickle Company, Inc. has pledged \$500,000; Southern Bank Foundation has pledged \$500,000; and the James E. and Mary Z. Bryan Foundation has pledged \$400,000. The pledges will be paid over several years.

Mt. Olive Pickle Company, Inc., the second best-selling brand of non-refrigerated pickles in the U.S., with distribution in 30 states, announced that their gift to the College is the largest single pledge the company has made to date. The money, totaling \$500,000, will be contributed to the College over a period of five years.

"The company is making this significant gift because we believe Mount Olive College makes a significant impact on the local community," said Bill Bryan, president of Mt. Olive Pickle Company, Inc. Mount Olive College and Mt. Olive Pickle Company have deep-rooted ties. Many of the company's shareholders have been supportive of the College, including Dr. C.C. Henderson, one of the original founders of the company. The school's main classroom building is named in Henderson's honor.

In presenting the College with a pledge of \$400,000 on behalf of the James E. and Mary Z. Bryan Foundation, Dr. James M. Zealy, president of the foundation noted, "This gift is representative of our commitment to Mount Olive College. As ninety-seven percent of Mount Olive College students are from eastern North Carolina, scholarship aid provided through the College is an excellent fit with the purpose expressed by Jim and Mary in establishing their foundation."

The James E. and Mary Z. Bryan Foundation has been a benefactor of Mount Olive College since 1968. Including the current gift, the foundation has committed more than \$1.5 million in scholarship aid to students attending the College.



*Above: (L to R) Frank Holding, director of the Southern Bank Foundation; Lois Britt, co-chairman of a Mount Olive College; William "Bill" Bryan, president of the Mt. Olive Pickle Co.; Dr. James Zealy, president of the James E. and Mary Z. Bryan Foundation; E. J. "Buddy" Pope, co-chairman of a Mount Olive College steering committee; and Dr. J. William Byrd, President of Mount Olive College.*

In addition to Dr. Zealy, directors of the foundation are Lewis R. Holding of Raleigh and William H. Bryan of Mount Olive.

The Bryan Foundation was established during the 1950s by Jim and Mary Zealy Bryan to provide for the higher education of "needy but worthy" North Carolina boys and girls.

John Pegram, president of Southern Bank and Trust Company, the third oldest state-chartered commercial bank in North Carolina and the tenth largest bank in North Carolina, presented a pledge for \$500,000 to Mount Olive College on behalf of the Southern Bank Foundation. "Southern Bank is pleased to support Mount Olive College and its endeavors. Our organizations share common backgrounds and characteristics. Both institutions were founded here in Mount Olive. In addition, both institutions are celebrating significant anniversaries this year, with the College celebrating its fiftieth anniversary and the bank celebrating its one-hundredth anniversary. And while our interests and reach are not limited, we share a common mission to serve the citizens and commu-

nities in Eastern North Carolina. Thanks to the effort and support of many people, Mount Olive College and Southern Bank look forward to another 50 years, another 100 years, of service, respectively," Pegram stated.

At a luncheon held for the contributors, Dr. J. William Byrd, president of the College said, "Our strength as a center for higher learning is to a great degree derived from the support of businesses and individuals that share our vision for a better society through growth for our people. It is through their gifts and volunteer leadership that we are able to expand opportunities and collectively lift the quality of life for our region." "We gratefully acknowledge that our quest for higher values and higher standards is directly tied to our partnership with those companies that we honor today. Mt. Olive Pickle Company, the Southern Bank Foundation, and the James E. and Mary Z. Bryan Foundation are all forces for good in our community, and Mount Olive College is indeed fortunate to benefit from their generosity," he concluded. ❖



# The Choices We Make

by Marci Rollins

*The following message was presented during the 11:00 AM chapel service at Mount Olive College on September 25, 2001.*

**Scripture: Luke 10: 25-37**

**C**hoices: everyone makes them. Some are big, some are small. Some choices we make and we don't give much thought to. Some choices we make based on our preconceived ideas about the situation, or based on how we think we will be affected in the long run. Some choices we make without thinking how they affect others and how they affect our relationship with God.

On September 11, some people made some very bad choices that affected our nation and our entire world. Maybe they had been thinking about those choices for weeks, months, or even years. As students, we make choices every day that affect ourselves, others, and our relationship with God.

First of all, we made the choice to attend college and to attend Mount Olive College. Some of us choose to play sports or become involved with clubs or organizations. We make choices concerning who we will be friends with as well as who we will *not* be friends with. We make choices concerning who we will date and what we will do on those dates. We make choices concerning our social lives and where we will hang out. We make choices to attend class, to study, or to not attend class and not study. We also make choices to discriminate against others based on color, creed, gender, or sexual preference. Or we make the choice to be friends with these people regardless.

All too often we make choices based on "Me, Me, Me." Our choices are based on what others will think, say, and how others will treat us. "If I speak to that person on the sidewalk or in the hallway, or in the cafeteria, what are my friends going to say about me?" How really self-centered we are.

The robber in the Good Samaritan story seems to have had the philosophy of "What is yours is mine, and I will take it." The priest and the Levite, both well respected religious leaders of the day, had the philosophy I think most of us have



today: "What is mine is mine and I will keep it." If we were to see someone of another race or another religion lying half dead on the sidewalk, most of us would walk right by. We wouldn't want to get involved in the situation and risk being killed ourselves. Or maybe we'd be in too big of a hurry to get to class or our ball game or even our church meeting to stop and waste our time on someone else. Or maybe we just wouldn't want to dirty up our nice, pretty clothes.

Jesus teaches us to think about how our decisions affect others. There's an e-mail that's floated around for a couple of years now that tells the story of a junior high or high school boy who was walking home from school. He tripped and dropped all of his schoolbooks. As he was bent over trying to gather them all together, some of the others walked past him and laughed. But one girl stopped to help him. After they had collected all the books, she began walking beside him and talking to him. She discovered he was new in town and had not made very many friends. His parents had recently divorced and his mom was working two jobs to make ends meet. The girl invited the boy over to dinner at her house that night and soon the two became close friends.

Years later when the two stood in their line at graduation, the boy turned to the girl and thanked her for being his friend. He then told her that his plans for the day he had dropped his books and she stopped to help him, had been to go home and commit suicide.

The choice that girl made that day probably seemed insignificant. She could have chosen to walk past him with the rest and laugh and make fun of him. But she didn't. She had compassion on him. The choice she made that day, saved that boy's life.

The girl was like the Samaritan in Jesus' story. Maybe she had been treated the same way at some point in her life. Or maybe she just had mercy without regard to her reputation, her pride, or her popularity. True mercy doesn't ask for limits, it only asks for opportunity. Mercy begins when we see our world as a world of neighbors that we are to care for.

The choices we make impact not only our relationship with others, but also our relationship with God. Since we are all created in the image of God, we draw closer to God by drawing closer to others. Jesus stated that the greatest of all the commandments are to love God and to love others. He followed this with the story of the Good Samaritan. The Samaritan, in contrast to the priest and the Levite, said by his actions "What is mine is yours, and I will give it."

The Bible is filled with verses that teach us to love and have compassion on others. In Luke 6:27-31, the Bible teaches us to turn our cheek when offended and to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. In Matthew 25: 31-46, the Bible teaches us to give to the poor, visit the sick and imprisoned, give water to the thirsty, food to the hungry, and clothing to the naked. These things may seem to fit a "work righteousness" theology, but they really describe what true faith is all about.

Faith is not found in what we do or do not do, but in how we love. And our love is shown in the everyday choices we make. Those choices that say, "I don't care what others think or say about me, I'm going to help that person, listen to that person, have compassion on that person." We need to pay close enough attention to others that we will see, hear, and know the opportunities that arise everyday that will allow us to show compassion on others as Christ showed compassion on us.

In the words of the Book of Joshua (24:15), "choose you this day whom you will serve," God or self. Will you choose to have compassion on those around you and make your decisions based on how they will affect others and your relationship with God or will you choose to make your decisions based on "Me, Me, Me." The answer lies in the choices you make. ❖

*Marci Rollins, a senior religion major, is the daughter of Nelson and Deborah Rollins. She is a member of First Church of Goldsboro.*





## What Should the Public Expect From Your Sunday School?

(A Reprint from *The Free Will Baptist Sunday School Reporter*, Autumn, 1969)

**T**he Sunday School has a debt to pay. It *should* offer the public an example in all phases of Christian living.

The public must see, in the Sunday School, people who demonstrate by persuasive living the inner changes wrought by the Gospel which is taught in the Sunday School.

The Sunday School *should* offer to the public a Bible study program. The basic need of men and women everywhere is an understanding of God's Word, for herein are they brought face to face with Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind and of their need of Him and their responsibility to Him.

The Sunday School *should* offer to the public adequate leadership for Bible training. It is the business of leaders to seek out and train men and women of all ages and for all ages.

The Sunday School *should* throb with a passion to save the lost in the community it serves. It *should* not be near-sighted, but see the needs out to the ends of the earth.

The Sunday School *should* offer to the public a kindly, friendly, wholesome atmosphere.

The Sunday School *should* give to the public a higher social level—better homes, better communities, better industry. It should stand against the forces of evil—the liquor business, vice, crime, delinquency, and terrorism of all kinds.

The Sunday School *Should* give to the public a crusade to bring the community into such relations with Christ as transform their attitudes, their motives, their choices, and their characters.

- Selected ❖



**I**n this time of world crisis, let us not forget to remember and celebrate the birthday of the King, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Just as the Statue of Liberty represents freedom in the United States of America, the empty Cross represents our freedom in the Christian church. Jesus, in His human form, understands our frustration, anxiety, anger, desperation, and wonder. The Cross is a reminder of the price He paid to free us. The empty tomb represents the "Hope" for the future we find in Jesus Christ. At this season of the year, let us truly turn our minds and hearts to our source of salvation, Jesus, as we celebrate His Birth.

The Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Ministry sends its thanks for all the support that has been received during the past year and anticipates even greater support through prayer, finances, and presence at learning opportunities as it seeks to fulfill its mission of service. ❖

Mrs. Mary Dudley, Director  
The Rev. Paul Grubbs, Chairman  
Mr. Darren Davenport, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Kathy Markuson, Secretary  
Mrs. Terry Ford, Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Cathy Crumpler  
Mrs. Evelyn English  
The Rev. Wayne Watson  
The Rev. Bruce Jones  
Mr. Heath Conner



## Camp Vandemere

by Rev. Michael R. Williams  
Manager, Camp Vandemere

**G**reetings from Camp Vandemere. God is good. Amen! God has blessed Camp Vandemere in so many ways this past year, with many first time churches and groups that have found Camp Vandemere not to be a thing of the past.

Camp Vandemere has one of the most beautiful views in Pamlico county, but Camp Vandemere is more than just a pretty view. Along with the view of the Bay River, there is fishing, boating, swimming in the summer in the 20' x 40' pool, picnic for the family, volleyball, Ping-Pong, canoeing, and paddleboats.

While you and your group are staying at Camp Vandemere, you may desire to visit other places close by. For all you hunters, there is a clay shooting range with guns, ammunition, and even lessons. Less than thirty miles away, there are golf courses and historical homes and sites in New Bern to visit. You may decide to sit back and enjoy the peace and quietness of the camp.

I think of Camp Vandemere as a place of refuge, where people can get away from the world and its pressures. Why not allow Camp Vandemere make you feel special?

As manager, I am always looking for ways to better Camp Vandemere, such as expanding the 40 acres of land here at the camp. Some of these 40 acres need to be cleared and prepared for future projects. The campsites that are currently set up for campers have been improved, but are in need of sewage hook-ups and there is need to add more camp spaces. I am looking to add a boat ramp and pier for the boaters to have better access to the water. More rooms are needed to accommodate people, and the list goes on.

In the past two years, churches have responded to the needs of Camp Vandemere with support and prayers, and I know they continue to do so be-

cause they see what Camp Vandemere provides for their families and for the youth to hear the Word of God during our summer camps.

As I have spoken earlier, there are many ways to improve Camp Vandemere, which in return will better serve you, the people. I am asking all of the Original Free Will Baptist Churches to please put us on their yearly budget. I am asking you to set this budget at \$1,300.00 a year.

Let me show you how easy it is to meet this goal. I am asking for twenty-five people out of every church to set aside one dollar a week. That's right, one dollar a week for twenty-five people. This will add up to \$1,300.00 a year. If your church will include us in your budget, Camp Vandemere can go forward for the future to better its facilities for your service. Please pray about this for I know God has blessed our churches enough that twenty-five people can afford one dollar a week.

There is another way you can support Camp Vandemere; come and visit us. I truly feel if you have never been here before you will ask yourself why did it take so long.

Camp Vandemere is looking for individuals who would be willing to be a spokesperson for the camp. This individual would receive information about Camp Vandemere and the latest happenings. All we ask is to please relay this information to your church. This would be a great asset to Camp Vandemere. If you or someone you know would be interested, please fill out the form below and send it to:

**Camp Vandemere**  
**PO Box 188**  
**Vandemere, NC 28587**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

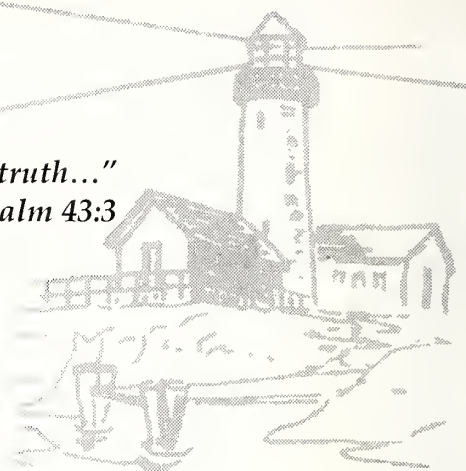
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank You!*

*"Send out thy light and truth..."*

*Psalm 43:3*



You may contact me at 252-745-3171 or visit our web-site at [www.Campvandemere.org](http://www.Campvandemere.org). I am also looking for individuals to be spokespersons for the camp to give up-to-date information to your churches. This will also help in letting you, the church, know what is going on at the camp and in the area that may interest you individually or your church.

Please fill out the information form provided and mail it back in so I can send you the information. Again thanks to all the churches, woman's auxiliaries, men's leagues, and individuals that have made Camp Vandemere a great success.

Camp Vandemere is open all year long to meet your needs. All you have to do is call. Thank you, God bless and may each and everyone have a Merry Christmas. ♦



## Club Honors The Rev. Dan Beamon

**D**uring its regular meeting on October 9, the Retired People's Club of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, NC, honored the Rev. Dan Beamon who celebrated his ninety-second birthday in October.

Rev. Beamon was ordained to the gospel ministry in December of 1933 and joined the Central Conference in November of 1934. He attended Moody Bible Institute in 1932, working 8 hours a day while carrying a full schedule of classes.



Rev. Beamon has served as pastor of 31 churches. His longest pastorate was Rose Hill Church, Ayden, NC, which he served for 18 years. Over the

years he has held several offices and positions in the denomination, including moderator of the Central Conference from 1948 to 1949. Early in his ministry, he served as pastor of 4 churches at the same time.

He is still physically active and possesses a deep devotion to the Free Will

Baptist work and denomination. ❖

*Above: The Rev. Dan Beamon, with his daughters Mary (left) and Sarah (right).*

## A Special Celebration

**O**n October 21, 2001, the family of the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow sponsored a reception in recognition and honor of his ninetieth birthday and his seventy years as an ordained Original Free Will Baptist Minister. This special celebration was held at his home, 3467 Hull Road, Snow Hill, NC, from 2:00-4:30 pm.

During his ministry, Rev. Barrow served as pastor of many of our churches, preaching in seventeen states and Washington, DC. He also served on various boards and committees. He is a past president of the Convention. In the sixties he served as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press. At the present he is serving as pastor of Grant's Chapel Church, Seven Springs, NC.



The years have not diminished his zeal for the Lord's work and his devotion to Original Free Will Baptists. ❖

## A Family Celebration of the Real Meaning of Christmas!

### Seventh Annual Bethlehem Walk



*Presented by Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Hwy. 306 S. Arapahoe, NC.*

**December 6-8**

Continuous Tours  
Beginning at 7:00 PM Each Evening:  
Last Tour 9:00 PM

Call: 252-249-1630 or  
252-745-5206

*Music in the Sanctuary  
While You Wait*



## News From Powhatan

**O**n the evening of September 11, 2001 Powhatan opened its doors for members and the community to come together for prayer and comfort following the terrorist attacks on our nation. Our prayers are with the victims and their families and with those who may be called on to serve in the armed forces over the coming months and years. We pray for God to give our leaders the wisdom and courage to make the right decisions to keep our country safe. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:17).

Twenty youth from Powhatan attended the Cape Fear District Youth Rally hosted by Oak Grove Church on September 1. Banners were presented to the churches with the highest attendance. The program featured a spin-off of the TV game show, "The Weakest Link." Questions were asked of the teen players about their youth group. When the weakest link was determined, instead of throwing her out, the group lifted her up to try and make her stronger, as Christians should do.

The Willard Benson Sunday School Class continues to sponsor singings at local rest homes. This month, a bell performance was given in addition to the normal singing and devotions. What a blessing to those who are shut in and cannot attend regular services! A special thank you to Becky and Dan Harden who keep encouraging the visitations, and to all those who take time to be a part of the program.

Eight from Powhatan attended "Power Surge II" at First Free Will Baptist in Wilson on September 8. It was a beautiful day and there were lots of games and good food for the young people to enjoy.

On Saturday, September 22, the youth group and leaders assembled at the home of an accident victim who is now wheelchair bound. He needed help cleaning his yard, especially along a creek bank.

Our Homecoming was held on



September 16 with the Rev. Swade Benson as our speaker. A memorial service was held honoring those lost this past year—Virginia Pounds, Joe Nichols, Oma Ross, and J.C. Blinson. Mrs. Oma's son commented "She gave me all I needed except enough height to play basketball!" But that would be taken care of when he got to Heaven, where we'll all feel 10 feet tall!

Thank you to Martha Jones who had made patriotic ribbons for distribution to all in attendance at Homecoming services. This was her way of making a contribution following the national tragedy.

The Rev. Lloyd Hargis was the Fall Revival speaker the week of October 17–21 at Powhatan. He and Sandra are "home folks," and it was a week of blessings. Our youth choir, in turn, visited with him at Everett Chapel's Homecoming on Sunday, September 23.

The Cape Fear Union met at Lee's Chapel on September 30 for a revival meeting. Powhatan's YFA group performed and there were 29 who attended from Powhatan for the meeting.

A special thanks to Blended Fellowship for the special music. Scott Satterfield delivered the message on "love." Over \$8,000 was collected for the purchase of a building for Blended Fellowship and Fred Baker challenged everyone present to pray and seek to raise the remaining funds when they returned to their home churches.

### **A Blessed Christmas to All**

Happy Birthday to our Savior and seasons greetings to all our Free Will Baptist family from Powhatan Original

Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton! We pray for a safe and blessed Christmas for all our neighbors all over the world over.

The Woman's Auxiliary of Powhatan sponsored a yard sale on October 6 to raise funds for upcoming projects. A thank you to all who donated, participated, or bought items in support of our group.

Julie Capps, treasurer and Rita Jones, recording secretary, attended the Cape Fear District Meeting at Hopewell. Nineteen churches were represented and the Rev. Roger Hill brought the message.

Attendance banners were presented as follows: Smyrna, Youth Overall; Riverside, Overall; Powhatan, Youth Runner Up; Oak Grove, Overall Runner Up.

Carla Jackson introduced the program with the theme of "Change my Heart" based on Scripture from Psalm 119:133. A skit was performed showing a teen who had tried the wrong things to give meaning to his life and was looking for something more.

It was a wonderful program showing how the "shackle" of sin can be removed. We were all instructed to ask ourselves, "Has God truly changed our hearts?"

An October 12 Layman's League chicken dinner was a success, raising additional money for the church building fund.

A bus trip was taken to see the production "Born Again-Western Style" on October 13. Everyone enjoyed it and wants to start getting tickets for the Christmas program that the group performs.

Nineteen people joined in outreach teams on Saturday, October 27, visiting more than 200 homes in the community and inviting the residents to come and worship with us. A gift of a half-dozen donuts was a welcome surprise to many of the neighbors visited.

That evening, the Four In Christ joined us for a great evening of worship in song and we thank them for being faithful in joining with us each year. ❖



## News From Pleasant Hill Church, Pikeville

**P**leasant Hill Original Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, NC, Wayne County celebrated Sunday September 16, 2001, as the day of dedication and ground breaking for a new sanctuary.

The Special service began at 11:00 AM; Pastor David Thick brought the message.

Following the message, the 85 in attendance moved outside and gathered in a circle on the new foundation, which is located beside the original church. Rev. Thick had remarks and closed with prayer. The new Sanctuary should be ready for occupancy in six months.

Following the ground breaking ceremony, everyone moved to the fellowship hall for a delicious meal and fellowship.

Our church celebrated its one hundred sixth Homecoming on October 21, 2001. Mr. David Ruff was the guest speaker for our Sunday School, which began at 9:45 AM. Rev. David Thick, pastor delivered the 11:00 AM message followed by a memorial service.

Our annual Sunday School picnic, (Pumpkin Party) was held on October 27, 2001, at the home of Deacon David Berry and wife Martha Berry. Everyone enjoyed good food, a hayride, fishing, a bonfire, and games. ❖



*Above: L to R: The Rev. David Thick; Deacons Bill Lynch and David Berry; Youth Director Mike Syverson; Chairman of building committee, Joe Rollins, and Deacon Duane Bunn.*

## Pastor Appreciation Day for The Rev. Danny Smith

**I**mmediately after services on August 12, 2001, Pastor Appreciation Day was celebrated on the Grounds of Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church, three miles west of Pikeville. The occasion was to honor a man who has honored us, a man who trudged the extra mile to deliver clarity while preaching his sermons to the congregation. a man who lives and walks the footsteps of Jesus. In our most sincere, gracious, and meaningful way, let us be thankful we have such a man to guide us through our daily lives, especially during these troubled times.

A gift was presented to Rev. Smith, the pastor that gives bread and takes the crust as his share.

The Rev. Smith's acceptance, along with his usual graciousness, was a token of his perennial benevolence to all mankind.

Immediately after the presentation everyone enjoyed a bountiful meal. ❖





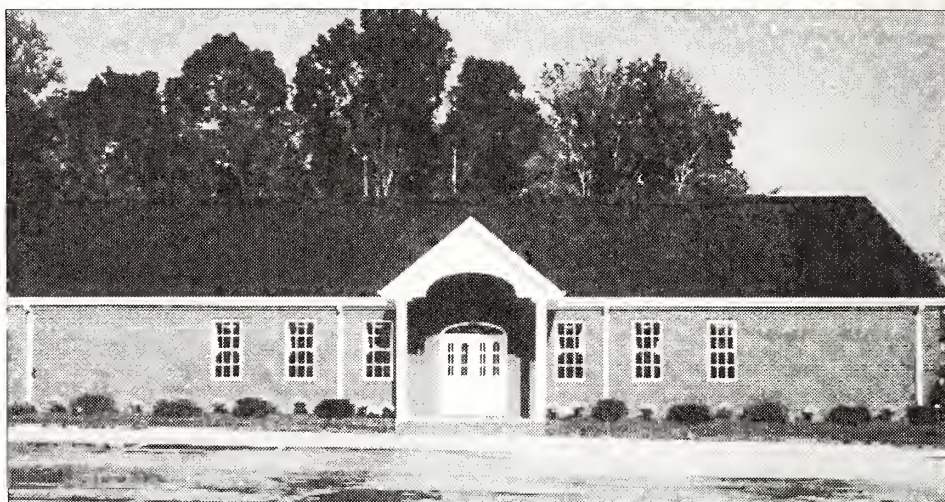
## Juniper Chapel Church Dedicates New Fellowship Hall

Using great wisdom Solomon declares, "Where there is no vision, the people perish..." (Proverbs 29: 18), and the vision of a new Fellowship Hall, which had been in place for several years, finally became a reality on Saturday, September 22, as the membership of the Juniper Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church came together to dedicate the new structure, which was completed in less than five months.

Hotdogs, hamburgers, and homemade ice cream made up the menu, and the joy of the Lord and praises for His faithfulness became the theme for the day as Pastor Mike Scott conducted the service of dedication.

Many of the people who shared in the construction of the new edifice were recognized, but most of all God was glorified for the insight that He gave, the leadership that He imparted, and the power that He bestowed as the old building was completely demolished and a beautiful new structure was raised in His honor.

By the time construction was completed, most of the items inside the building (tables, chairs, curtains, lights, carpeting, kitchen fixtures, appliances, wallpaper, and other things to numerous to



mention) had been donated, which saved considerably on the overall cost of the project. The entire congregation came together as everyone labored diligently over the weeks and months of construction.

One of the first functions in the new building was the Senior Citizens' Banquet held on October 13, which is an annual event sponsored by the Young Adult Sunday School Class. A 50s theme was used as the Fellowship Hall was transformed into a drive-in complete with waitresses in poodle-skirts and old-fashioned banana splits.

The program consisted of songs, skits, and testimonies as everyone laughed, applauded, and worshiped throughout the evening. Christians enjoy the presence of the Lord in their lives daily, but also enjoy the companionship of other believers, and we at the Juniper Chapel Church are blessed by the reality of God in our midst and by the closeness that we feel as brothers and sisters in Christ. We cannot praise and honor God enough for what He has done for our church and what we believe He is going to do in the days that are yet to come. ❖

### Second Annual Mixed Bag Theater

We made a list  
and checked it twice...  
You're invited  
'cause you're so nice!

Date: Sunday, December 16

Time: 5:30 PM Heavy Hors-D'oeuvres

6:30 PM Theater

Place: First FWB Church

314 W. Lenoir Street

Kinston, NC 28501

We'll have a HO-HO-Whole lot of fun!



### 2002 Woman's Auxiliary Devotion

Now available at  
your Bible and Book  
Stores: Ayden,  
Wilson, Kinston,  
and New Bern.



PRICE \$4.95





Dr. Pepper Worthington

## DR. PEPPER'S BOOK CORNER

Many of our young people face a choice for a career. Scott Turow's account of his first year at Harvard Law School might help all of us who are focusing upon future choices and academic rigor ahead. In the end of the last century and the beginning of the twenty-first century, we are discovering that law is the final word in our society, not God nor Christian morality nor faith. The place of law has been elevated in our legalistic culture, so it might interest all of us to investigate Turow's first year at Harvard Law School. He was in the class of One L.

### Meeting the Enemy

One enemy for all of us when we try something new is fear. What fear? We become afraid we shall fail. We fear we shall disappoint our family and bring shame upon ourselves. The enemy becomes multi-faceted, what Turow calls "feelings of panic, depression, indefinite need" (x).

According to Turow, some "40,000 Americans" begin "their legal education every fall" (xii). For him, he entered Harvard in 1975 in a class of 550. He was separated into a group of 140 and would move with them through his three years of law school. Ahead was Professor Rudolph Perini with Contracts, Professor Nicky Morris with Civil Procedure, a Legal Methods class, Professor Bertram Mann with Criminal Law, and Professor William Zechman with Torts. Turow had to settle down and face the enemy within: fear, depression, anxiety, brutality, competition, and ruthlessness.

### Harvard Law School

How does Turow describe Harvard Law School? He draws us into the terror of Perini's class, into the anxiety of first semester exams, into the borderline

nervous disorders of the first year students, into the excruciating study demands placed upon students, into the role of study groups, and into the race to make the *Harvard Law Review*. Whew! We are left breathless. The enemy seems everywhere.

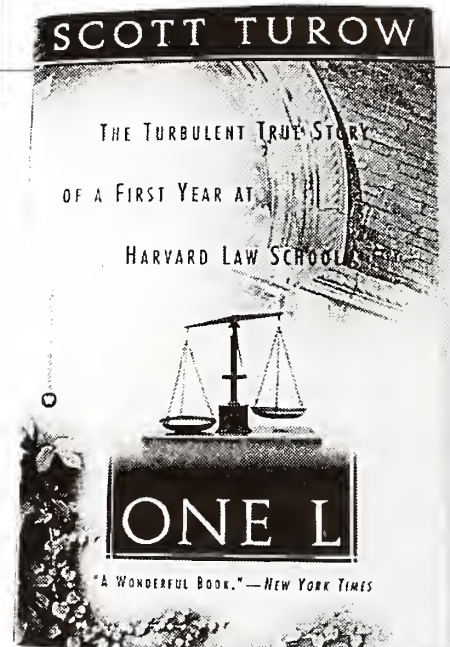
Much mental activity occurs within Langdell Hall, the "biggest building on the law-school campus" (24). Within this building students must face professors, answer questions from the Socratic method used, sit on the hot seat when drilled ruthlessly.

Turow carries us with him through book purchases, exam cramming, class discussions, and grade fever. He criticizes the Socratic method used at Harvard: "...the peculiar privilege which Socraticism grants a teacher to invade the security of every student in the room means that in the wrong hands it can become an instrument of terror. I never felt that my education gained by my being frightened, and I was often scared in class" (263).

### Criticism of Harvard Law School

What does Scott Turow criticize about his experience at Harvard Law School? He is specific: (1) There should be smaller classes. (2) There should be more opportunities for students to write and be evaluated so that the one exam does not reduce the student to an all or nothing evaluation. (3) Candidates for the Harvard Law Review should be elected

Scott Turow. *One L*. New York: Warner Books, 1977. 269 pages. ISBN 0-446-67378-1.



and not chosen for grade only. (4) Students should have an opportunity to meet with faculty more often.

Turow comes down hard on Professor Rudolph Perini, calling his terror tactics in the classroom misguided. Turow declares: "A more humane and humanistic education in the law strikes me as far more fitting than a schooling characterized by terror and the suppression of feeling for those persons who, in time, will become this society's chief custodians of justice" (265).

### Conclusion

The passion for law reflects a passion for certainty. With law, "someone will always win, someone lose" (264). Turow believes law "is at war with ambiguity, with uncertainty" (264). Our society is "a society where there is ceaseless conflict requiring resolution" (264). Only Professor William Zechman stressed the uncertainty and ambiguities within the law, paving the way for lawyers to expand their thinking, supplement factual case readings with films, drama, and people. Turow believes lawyers must seek "to cultivate a sensitivity to the immediate human context in which the law so forcefully intervenes" (265). ♦



# Christian Art Review

by Rev. Michael Warning



From Luke 2:21-40 we read about the infant Jesus being

brought to the temple for the ritual presentation of the child to God. This was a tradition required for every Jewish child in Israel. The Original Free Will Baptist denomination does not have a required tradition of bringing a child in ceremonial fashion to the church. However, the bringing of a child to church is always a wonderful time for rejoicing. Why? A child is a new life within the fellowship. A very young but political brother or sister in the faith appears. Who knows what will come of this new child through the prayers and concerns of the church?

## Artistic Style

This neoclassical painting by Philippe de Champaigne (1602-1674), the official court portrait painter to Louis XIII of France, depicts the moment when the elderly Simeon holds the child Jesus in his arms proclaiming that he, Simeon, can now depart in peace for he has seen the salvation of the world.

The artistic style is one which carefully gives a realistic depiction of the architecture, the people, and their clothing. The painting gives a feeling of realism as well as a stopped moment in time—all time frozen in that special moment at that special place in that special time.



Source: Philippe de Champaigne, *The Presentation in the Temple*. Koninklijke Musea Vorr Schone Kunsten van Belgie, Brussels. Oil on canvas. 102 inches by 78 inches. From Richard Mullberger, *The Bible in Art: The New Testament*. New York: Portland House, p. 41.

The conventions of careful delineation of light, of drapery, of frozen motion, of classical architecture is characteristic of this type of royal court painting of the seventeenth century.

We see this scene as one who is standing below the steps of the temple as a visitor there. We are, therefore, placed within the scene, just below the steps and looking up.

## Symbolism

The Corinthian columns of the temple symbolize the Romanization of this scene. However, this scene is taking place in Jerusalem in the time of the Roman occupation. In the very far background to the right of Mary is the high priest of the temple giving authenticity to this being a temple scene. Mary and Joseph are to the far left. In the center stand Simeon with the Baby Jesus, symbolizing the importance of Jesus in this picture. For Simeon the child symbolizes the answer to his prayer and to the

prophecy given to him that he would not know death until he had seen the salvation of the world.

A second figure gives emphasis to this prophecy. Anna, the prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel of the tribe Aser, is of great age and she at this instance is giving thanks for the child. She spoke of Jesus as the source of redemption for all Jerusalem. Anna is the one to the right who is pointing to the child. It is this moment in the depiction that we are seeing.

## Conclusion

Although this painting was commissioned by a king, it also is an important vision for our Original Free Will Baptist Denomination. Why? Here too we are called to see Jesus as our source of comfort and salvation. We too are to see Jesus as a blessing to all who believe. We too must hold Jesus up and point to Jesus as the source of hope, faith, and blessing. ❖



# December

## Rejoice!

### 2001


Prayer Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Things to Remember \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	1
2	3	4	5 †	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 †
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 	26	27	28	29
30	31 †					

The Free Will Baptist denominational calendar

- 5—Deadline for January's Publication
- 15—Fall 2001 Commencement Ceremonies, Mount Olive College
- 25—Merry Christmas
- 31—New Year's Eve



New Bern Bible and Bookstore  
Nell Jernigan—*Manager*  
Joan Miller  
Joyce Toler

14. Publication Title <b>THE FREE WILL BAPTIST</b>		15. Issue Date (or Consultation Date) of First Issue	
16. Subject and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	
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